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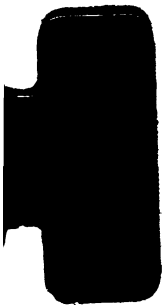

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Quem nisi mendosum & mendacem? Vir bonus est quis?
Qui consulta patrum, qui leges juraque servat?

HOR. Ep. I. 16.

LONDON:

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THE following authentic Papers were ſent by Mr. Van Sittart to ſome of his friends in England, and arrived the latter end of the laſt year.

Some few Extracts from them were before obtained in the Eaſt Indies, and were ſent from thence to England, together with ſome partial quotations, and a bad verſion of a Perſian Letter or two, and were here publiſhed the beginning of laſt year; with how unfair and unjuſt an intention, was evident from the reflexions and obſervations which then attended them.

They now come forth intire, and with no other deſign than to gratify every lover of truth: which purpoſe, it is thought, they will beſt anſwer, when thus fairly given up to candid inquiry, without either narrative or remark to bias the mind of the Reader.

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GENERAL

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Year.		Letter of reference.
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One

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Year.		Letter of reference.
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	2. By proposing to him an alliance with the English, and part of our forces to proceed with him to Delly?	
	That the power of the Nabob should be strengthened, under the immediate	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	mediate influence of the Company — a well concerted alliance with him	
1760.	might be of great use, to acquire to ourselves a large body of the Nabob's troops to join with our own, in opposing any attempts of European Powers.	R.
	Resolved, To consult Coffim Aly Cawn on the subject of the great expences, the want of money, and the difficulties brought on the Company by the system of supporting the Country government with our troops.	R. S.
	Much given up in other parts of India, for the sake of providing for the safety of Bengal.	S.
16 Sep.	Reply of Coffim Aly—He undertakes to remedy the distressed state of the Company's affairs, and the disorders of the country government, if the general management of the province were placed in his hands, and the Nabob rescued from the influence of his present advisers.	
	The season was now begun for our forces to take the field—scarce a rupee in the Treasury.	
	The Company's former successes had left them an establishment, that had lost the foundation on which it was built; a military force, proportioned to their connections and influence in the country, without the means of subsistence; a fortification begun upon the same extensive plan at a vast expence; and an alliance with a power unable to support itself, and threatening to involve them in the same ruin.	S.
	General disaffection to Jaffier's government — revolt of many of the principal Rajas (or Princes) — the massacre	S.

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Year. massacre perpetrated at Dacca, by the Nabob's order, recent in every mind. Letter of reference.

1760. Committee unanimously resolve on a treaty with Cossim Aly, which was executed the 27th of September. D, 1.

ARTICLES.

First, The Nabob Jaffier to continue in possession of his dignities, and all affairs to be transacted in his name.

Second, Cossim Aly to be placed in the administration of the affairs of the provinces, and to have the reversion of the government.

Third, Alliance offensive and defensive.

Fourth, The Europeans and seapoys of the English army, shall be ready to assist the Nabob in the management of all affairs.

Fifth, For all charges of the Company, and of the said army, and provisions for the field, &c. the lands of Burdwan, Midnapoor, and Chittagong, shall be assigned.

Sixth, Sillet.

Seventh, Former balances to be paid.

Eighth, Lands of the Company and of the government, how far distinct.

Ninth, The respective governments, how far independent.

Tenth, Whether *peace or war with the Prince*, should be left to future deliberation, but in either case, the present agreement to remain inviolable. Y.

Meer Cossim set out for Moorshedabad, the 29th of September; and the President and Col. Caillaud, the 2d of October. 29 Sept.

The select Committee's instructions to V.

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Year.	to Mr. Van Sittart and Colonel Caillaud.	Letter of reference.
1760.	Reſolution to regulate the government according to the plan propoſed — full powers given to the Preſident and Col. Caillaud, to act according to their own diſcretion, in all circumſtances that may occur in this buſineſs.	
14 Oct.	They reached Coſſimbazar the 14th of October.—The Preſident's repreſentation to the Nabob of the dangers that threatened the provinces on every ſide, and of the evil adminiſtration of thoſe, to whom he had intruſted the management. — Mr. Amyatt's account of the inſurrection at Patna.	V.
	The Nabob's own opinion of the hazardous ſtate of his affairs;	W.Y,c. W,a.
	But is too much ſunk in indolence, to attempt to apply any remedy to the evils.	Y, Y,c.
	The Preſident reſolved not to expoſe Coſſim to the reſentment of his father-in-law, nor to let the old Nabob himſelf ſink under the weight of his diſordered government, nor to ſee the Engliſh Army at Patna ruined for want of pay, nor to expoſe the provinces to the ravages of the Shahzada and his followers, nor tamely to acquieſce in the impending deſtruction of the Company itſelf.	
	He repreſents to the Nabob the miſeries of the country, and the damage the Company's affairs had received, from the management of his miniſters.	X.
	Some of the grievances were ſtated to him by Letters I. II. III.	Y. Y,a. Y,b.
	The Nabob confeſſes himſelf unequal to the charge of the government —his	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	— his opinion of his ſon-in-law. X. I. K. L.	
1760.	The Nabob will take no reſolution or ſteps to reſtore his affairs—returns into conſultation with his old adviſers Keeniram, Monilaul and Checon. — Character of thoſe miniſters — determination formed to remove them, and place his ſon-in-law in their ſtead — meaſures taken for that purpoſe.	Y, Y, a. Y, c. D, 1,
19 Oct.	The Gentoo feaſt on the 19th — the long and fatiguing ceremonies which are obſerved by the Gentoos — the occaſion favourable to the preſent undertaking — Col. Caillaud and ſix companies of Seapoys croſs the river by day break. — Account of the whole tranſaction — ſeiſure of the perſons of the Nabob's miniſters — conference with the Nabob — He reſigns the government to his ſon-in-law—his reſignation not expected nor deſigned.	X.
22 Oct.	This revolution happened without any riot or diſturbance, or loſs of any one life. — Jaffier Aly, by his own choice, goes to reſide with the Engliſh at Calcutta.	
	The great and immediate advantages accruing to the Company from this ſtep, ſo neceſſary and ſo happily executed.	X.
	Grants for making over to the Company the countries of Burdwan, Midnapoor and Chittagong, a territory very valuable in the poſſeſſion, and lying convenient for protection.	
	Public credit reſtored—money ſent to pay the troops at Patna—an aſſiſtance for the treaſury at Calcutta — aid for Madras, and for forwarding the reduction of Pondicherry.	A, 1, b.

Payment

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	Payment of the balances due to the Engliſh from the old Nabob.	
1760.	I, II, III, addreſſes to the Nabob Jaffier, which were before-mentioned.	Y,a. Y,b, Y,c.
	Mr. Ellis was informed, by two letters, of the proceedings, and of the late revolution.—Mr. Ellis's congratulations, "Such a revolution, with ſo little diſturbance ſcarce ever happened."	A,1,c. A,1,d. A,1,e.
22 and 23 Oct.	Mr. Ellis preſided at Calcutta during Mr. Van Sittart's abſence.	
20 Oct.	Major Carnac arrived with Mr. Ellis from England, came to the Preſident at Moradbaug, the 20th in the morning — aſſiſted Col. Caillaud in preventing any diſturbance in the city — proceeded afterwards with the Col. to Patna, in order to receive from him there the command of the troops.	
	Col. Caillaud ordered to join the army at Pondicherry.	
	Major Carnac remained with the governor at Moradbaug, 'till the Major went to Patna, and Mr. Van Sittart returned to Calcutta.	
	Major Yorke ſtaid at Moorſhedabad with the party under his command.	
22 Oct.	The old Nabob departs for Calcutta — takes his leave with much chearfulneſs.	Z.
	State of the old Nabob's treaſury.	A, 1.
	Coſſim Aly applies himſelf vigorouſly to the regulation of affairs.	
	Syſtem of prudence and œconomy.	
	Mr. Ellis applies for the chiefſhip of Patna, to which Mr. M'Guire had been appointed two months before.	
7 Nov.	The Preſident arrived in Calcutta — the	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	—the next day he reported his proceedings in general, and the advantages acquired for the Company —— preſent the *whole Council.*	
1760.	Diſtinction between the *Council*, and the ſelect or *ſecret Committee.*	
	Minute of the 8th of November, from Mr. Verelſt and Mr. Smyth, who were of the *Council*, and *not of the ſelect Committee.*	B, 1.
	They obſerve, that the proceedings of the *ſecret Committee*, were not made known to the *whole Council*, before they were carried into execution, and expreſs themſelves, "diſſatisfied at being made cyphers of, in ſo critical a concern."	
	Reply—that the tranſaction is now ordered to be laid before the *board*, and the reaſon why the whole Council were not acquainted with it before was, beeauſe it was an affair that required *Secrecy:* and to that was owing the ſpeedy and eaſy ſucceſs, which attended the execution of it. It is with ſuch intent that the Court of Directors have appointed a ſelect committee.	C, 1.
10 Nov.	Mr. Van Sittart's memorial, containing proofs, that affairs were at an extremity no longer to be neglected, without manifeſt danger of having the province over-run, and the trade intirely ruined.—Some meaſures muſt have been taken—neceſſity required them—the ſafeſt, moſt juſtifiable, and moſt expeditious were choſen—ſucceſs attended them.	D, 1. Y. A, 1, c.
1761.	Diſguſt taken by ſeveral members of the Council.	
H. H, a.	Mr. Amyatt, chief of Patna, had been informed from time to time of the	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
1761.	the proceedings — on which he gave no particular opinion, contenting himself with representing the difficulties and dangers which he was himself engaged in.	W, a.
8 Jan.	The first declaration of Mr. Amyatt's disapprobation of the proceedings of the select Committee, and of a change in Mr. Ellis's sentiments, appears in a minute which they entered upon the consultations on the 8th of January, to which Mr. Smyth assented.	
	They observe, "First, that the "reasons alledged are not sufficient "to convict Jaffier Aly Cawn of "breach of faith.	E, 1.
	"Secondly, The cruelties he has "been guilty of, may seem shocking "to a civilized government, but are "common in despotic states — the "present Nabob has already fallen "into the like severities.	
	"Thirdly, The advantages to be "derived to the Company from the "ceded provinces, will all prove "imaginary."	
12 Jan.	The gentlemen of the council who did, and still do approve of the late transactions with the country government. Reply,	F, 1.
	I. That there were reasons enough to justify, or rather to urge the select Committee, when deliberating on the state of affairs in August last, to have broken off all measures with Jaffier— besides the instances then mentioned of his perfidy, the letter of the Dutch Directore, which may be seen by those who will take the pains to examine it, is a full proof of his breach of faith. —Coffim Aly was his neareſt relation	D.

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Year. ——whoſe views were in reverſion. Letter of reference.

1761. II. They do not look upon aſſaſſination and murders, with ſuch indifference as is expreſſed in Mr. Amyatt's minute, nor could they ſo eaſily F, 1.

12 Jan. excuſe a crime ſo ſhocking. The pretended ſufferers, the ſon of Sirferauz Cawn, and the widow of Aliverdy Cawn, inſtead of having been the objects of the Nabob Coſſim's violence, live, and are obliged to his benevolence for a handſome maintenance allowed them.

III. As to the advantages acquired to the Company, which are *all* undervalued, becauſe *ſome* have not yet been collected---the ſhortneſs of the time has prevented the receipt of ſeveral payments which are ſettled; that for Burdwan became due this day—the country is in our own poſſeſſion---the proſpect is fair, and the preſent benefits are worth mentioning; as,

1. The payment of the arrears due to the Engliſh troops.

2. The aſſiſtance to the Company of five lacks.

3. Leave granted for coining Moorſhedabad ſiccas.

4. Seven or eight lacks paid to the Nabob's troops.

5. The troops ſatisfied, and actually in the field, and the enemy defeated, which, without ſuch payment, could not have happened. There is no room for blame, whether the *event* be conſidered, or the *deliberations* that preceded it. The ſelect Committee gave all poſſible attention to the ſituation of the Company at home, and of their affairs in general; and

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Year.		Letter of reference.
1761.	and their neceſſities and dangers appeared ſo ſtriking, that there was not a doubt but that the meaſures undertaken ſhould be purſued even with *riſk*, which are now found fault with, though juſtified upon principle, and crowned with *ſucceſs*.	
16 Jan.	Mr. Ellis's minute—his ſentiments have never altered.	G, 1.
9 Feb. to April.	Inſtructions ſent from time to time to Major Carnac, to aſſiſt the Nabob in collecting his revenues from the great men of the country—their readineſs to make uſe of the Engliſh protection, to ſcreen them from examination of their accounts, when in arrear to the government. This is a fact well known.	G, 1. to K, 1.
	Major Carnac's anſwers.	
	He accuſes the Nabob of want of courage.	L, 1. to N, 1.
	Diſagreement between the Nabob and the Major.	
22 Apr.	Col. Coote ſet out to take the command of the army.	
8 May.	Letter from Major Carnac, deſiring leave to come to Calcutta in his way to England.	
	Determines afterwards to remain at Patna.	
April to Aug.	Evaſions and perfidy of Ramnarain — will come to no account with the Nabob for four months together — will not explain himſelf — was three years in arrear to the government — is deputy governor (Naib) of the Patna province—ſupported in his diſ-	N, 1. to G, 2.
16 June.	obedience — heavy complaints of the Nabob againſt the Colonel and Major.	S, 1, e. S, 1, g.
	A remarkable occurrence in the Nabob's army.	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
1761.	The Colonel, very early in the morning, with horſemen and Seapoys entered the Nabob's encampment— marched through the tents with a cocked piſtol in each hand.	S, 1, h. S, 1, k.
	The Colonel's own account of the affair, in which he denies the piſtols were cocked.	V, 1. V, 1, 4.
	The Governor's Minute.	
26 June.	Particular directions, the 17th of May, that Ramnarain ſhould be regarded as the deputy of the government of Moorſhedabad —— that he ſhould give the Nabob a faithful account of his outſtanding balances, and	I, 1.
20 July.	that the Nabob ſhould ſend his own people to collect them.	F, 2.
21 June.	Major Carnac's tranſactions on his march with the Shah.	I, 2. K, 2. Z, 1. A, 2.
	Orders of the India Company, and the eſtabliſhed cuſtom, that no diſſent to any letter from the board, ſhould be ſigned on the face of the letter itſelf—prudence and policy of that order—tranſgreſſions of it.	Y, 1. X, 1. H, 2.
	Correſpondence with the Princes of the country government to be carried on in the name of the Preſident.	
	Maxims of the Mogul empire.	
Sept.	The Colonel and the Major recalled to Calcutta.	
	A great change happens in the Council, in conſequence of Letters from Europe.	
	Mr. Ellis advanced to the chiefſhip of Patna.	
22 Sep.	Inſtructions to Mr. Ellis, principally to follow the cautions received from the Court of Directors----*not to protect the ſervants of the Nabob againſt their maſter.*----And by no means to interfere in any of the affairs of the country	L, 2.

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	country government, or the people belonging to it.	
1761.	Mr. Ellis arrived at Patna about the middle of November---his prejudices and violence of temper --- ſends to Capt. Carſtairs an order to ſeize and impriſon an officer of the government, named Munſeram---the Nabob was then about forty miles off---Capt. Carſtairs heſitates to execute the order.	M, 2.
1762. Jan.		
22 Jan.	Letter from the Nabob to Mr. Ellis. (Contraſt between them.)	N, 2.
4 Feb.	Letter from Mr. Ellis to the Nabob. (Contraſt between them.)	O, 2.
	The perſon mentioned in Mr. Ellis's letter to have been ſent a priſoner to Calcutta, was an officer of the Nabob's----his name was Coja Antoon---he had been accuſed of purchaſing five maunds of ſalt-petre: to anſwer for this crime, he was ſent 900 miles, and after a confinement of three months, was delivered over to farther puniſhment. Another charge againſt this perſon was, that he had given a certificate of ſome goods having been duly paſt, which was a contempt of the Company's duſtuck.	
10 Feb.	Diſtinction between the trade of the *Company*, and the concerns of private merchants----every ſtruggle made by the country people againſt the oppreſſions and extortions of the *private Engliſh Gomaſtahs trade*, was immediately conſtrued as an attack upon the Company's rights.	
Feb.	Letters of the Nabob's received in February.	P, 2. Q, 2.
4 Feb.	Information (which proved to be falſe) given to Mr. Ellis, that two deſerters had taken ſhelter in the fort	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	of Mongheer, then governed by Shujan Sing, as Deputy (Naib) to Coja Gregore. Mr. Ellis applied to Rajebullub, the Naib of Patna, for an	
1762.	order to deliver up the deſerters, and contenting himſelf with a verbal reply of the meſſengers, immediately ſent a company of Seapoys to ſearch the fort, and take the deſerters.	R, 2. S, 2. T, 2. A, 3. A, 3, c.
	The Seapoys appear before the fort ----Shujan Sing carried two of them into the fort, and ſhewed them every	d. e.
22 Feb.	place about it---no deſerters were to be found, in fact there were none.--- Mr. Ellis ſtill inſiſted that he would not recall his forces, till two ſerjeants ſhould have been admitted to ſearch the fort. Looſe as is the country diſcipline, Shujan Sing apprehended it to be his duty, neither to admit the party into the fort nor the ſerjeants--- his refuſal. This was termed the higheſt exceſs of inſolence in Shujan Sing----the party remained for three months----mutual complaints on this ſubject.	
	Whilſt this affair depended, another diſpute aroſe.---Mr. Ellis ſtations Seapoys.	V, 2. W, 2.
27 Apr.	At length the Nabob admits Lieut. Ironſide, two Seapoys and a ſerjeant ---they ſearch the fort.	A, 3. e.
	Theſe, and ſuch like diſputes, take up the greateſt part of the correſpondence beeween the Preſident and Council, and the Nabob.	X, 2. Y. 2 A, 3, e.
	The Preſident was in continual apprehenſion, that the moſt deſperate meaſures would take place---makes it his ſtudy, by moderation, to abate the violent ſpirit which prevailed--- forbears	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
1762.	forbears to make any remarks on the steps which had been taken by Mr. Ellis, and could not then be prevented ---endeavours to keep things quiet upon the footing they were, until he could agree with the Nabob upon some method of removing the occasion which had been taken to set these disputes on foot. Whatever confidence the Nabob might have in the moderation of the President, yet, as several of the Nabob's letters testify, he knew that he depended on the will of many, and some of those, his irreconcileable enemies. Those who were disaffected about his person, seised the opportunity of attempting his life, and overseting his government---the conspiracy was carried on by Seetaram Dewan and others.----As soon as the Nabob had full proofs of the transaction, he summoned Seetaram into his presence, and charged him with his crime before several hundreds of people, and appealed to the assembly for their sentence on him, who adjudged him, and the rest of the conspirators, guilty of death.	C, 3, h. A, 3, f.
March.	Some letters transmitted by Mr. Batson to the board—evident marks of forgery in them.—Agreed to carry on an enquiry with the greatest secrecy—which produced a further detection of their forgery. — Things could not long continue upon the point to which they were brought.	W, 4, 2, *
	The President judges, that the best way to put an end to the dissentions and jealousies, would be to send a person, in whom the Nabob had great confidence, to assure him there was no intention of breaking with	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	him, and to adviſe him to forget what had paſſed.	
1762. 15 Mar.	Mr. Haſtings deputed for this purpoſe—his inſtructions.	B, 3.
	Motion made by Mr. Amyatt, to ingraft on theſe inſtructions to Mr. Haſtings, a demand to be made on the Nabob for twenty lacks of rupees*, which he had formerly, after his acceſſion, offered to the Governor and the members of the ſelect Committee, and which they had refuſed.—The paper or bond, containing the offer of this ſum, was returned to the Nabob by the Preſident, the moment he knew the contents of it.—The gentlemen of the ſelect Committee, intirely approved of the Preſident's refuſal of the offer; it is now moved, that the money ſhould be demanded of the Nabob, "And in caſe he refuſes payment on account of the "bond's being returned, that he "ſhould be made to underſtand, that "it was returned without proper au-"thority." For the arguments on each ſide, ſee	B, 3, a. B, 3, c. B, 3, a, c.
	Upon this occaſion, and ſome others, a motion was made for calling Major Carnac to the board—The Company's inſtructions in their 64th paragraph, of the 13th of March, 1761, giving him a place at the Board, and in the ſelect Committee, in affairs where *military matters* are under debate.	B, 3, b. D, 4, a.
	The majority of the board agree, that the demand ſhould be made on the Nabob.	

* A lack of rupees is about 12,500l.

Mr.

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Year.		Letter of reference.
1762.	Mr. Haſtings ſet out on this commiſſion, and arrived at Patna the 2d of May——his converſation with the	
9 April.	Nabob, who expreſſed much diſſatiſ-	
2 May.	faction that he ſhould be charged with entertaining a jealouſy of the Engliſh	
13 May.	—and defies him to mention one inſtance of his having betrayed a want of confidence in the Company, or deviated from the treaty with them. "It is true, he added, he had frequent ſubject of complaint againſt the Engliſh dependents, but that made no alteration in his engagements with their principals:" he deſired that any of his people might be named, who were ſuſpected of having created differences between him and the Engliſh, and declared, if they were found guilty, he would put them to death; at the ſame time, he ſpoke very warmly of the acts of violence committed on his ſervants by Mr. Ellis.	C, 3, f.
	The Nabob's anſwer to the demand of twenty lacks.	C, 3.
13 May.	The Nabob was well acquainted with the power of the board, and the conſtitution of the Company's government in India.	C, 3, f.
	Arrival of the Company's general letter to Bengal, dated 19th June, 61. Containing,	
April.	Expreſſions of the higheſt ſatisfaction, "In this happy event." Speaking of the revolution in 1760.	D. 3.
May.	Another letter arrived of a ſubſequent date, 30th of Sept. 1761, in which they ſpeak of the meaſures taken as unavoidable.	D, 3, a.
July.	Diſputes ſtill continue between the Nabob and Mr. Ellis—ill effects reſulting from them—endeavours to prevent	F, 3.

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Year.	vent them. — A principal matter of contention is,	Letter of reference.
	The private trade.	
1762. July.	Which is the inland trade, carried on by private persons, on their own credit and bottom, in commodities produced in the country, and again sold in the same country.—The East India Company, a collective body of foreign merchants incorporated—procure from the Mogul at a great price, by their agents, a freedom from duties (except at the port of Surat) for all goods belonging to the collective body.	G, 3. A.
	They did not lay out the money of the community for the benefit of *private* merchants, but for the benefit of the Company.	
	The private trade consists of goods not fit for exportation, but which are again sold in the country; or it consists of articles which *are funds appropriated*, and paid into the exchequer of the country government.	R, 3.
	The Company never impowered their servants to deal in this trade, though they sometimes over-looked it, unless when attended with inconveniencies to themselves; upon such occasions, from time to time they issued orders forbidding it.	A, 4.
	As the Company never dealt in these branches of commerce for themselves, their dustuck was never granted to pass them free of duties, nor of course could it with justice be given; and when their servants or agents dealt in this trade, they did not deal as *agents* of the Company, but as *private* merchants transacting their own concerns.	G, 3. D, 4, 2.

If

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Year.		Letter of reference.
1762. July.	If the Company's *dustuck* did not go with such goods, of consequence the goods were liable to all duties usually paid by private traders, or the natives themselves.	
	It never could be intended by the Mogul King, that *private foreign* merchants should be upon a better footing than *private native* merchants.	I, 3.
	If any set of private foreign merchants could deal in all goods produced in the country, and sold in any part of the same country, free from all duties (while at the same time all duties were paid by the natives) the foreigners must in consequence keep the whole trade to themselves, and the government of the country must also lose the whole of the duties.	H, 3.
	Or if the dustucks were forged, or if they were bartered or sold to the natives, the same loss of all duties would be felt by the government.	H, 3, a.
	By the trade in goods *imported* or *exported*, the country government are gainers, and so is the Company;—— by the *private inland* trade carried on by foreigners, the country government are in every instance losers, and the English Company can get nothing by it.	L, 3, a.
	This trade, unless it be quite abolished, or wisely regulated, must be the source of continual disputes.	
	It never can be settled, unless the boundaries of the Company's jurisdiction, and the country government's authority, be fixed.	G, 3, L, D, 4, a.
	If the Company could set up a title to, and could actually take possession of the whole province of Bengal, they could not garrison or protect it.	

If

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Year.		Letter of reference.
1762. July.	If they do not take poſſeſſion of the whole province, and the government cannot have the fruits of its duties and revenues, there will ſtill be perpetual ſources of diſpute.	K, 3. G, 3.
	Nor can any *Mogul* or *Nabob*, or the ſubjects of either, be contented with the reſidence of ſuch gueſts; and the whole continent, for their own intereſts, will be ready to join againſt them.	
March to June	Debates upon the ſubject of trade —the nature and extent of it—the power of our factors (gomaſtahs) and their right of uſing force in their own concerns, with matters of a ſimilar kind, are inſerted at large.	B, 3. R, 3. * (a). F, 3. to F, 5.
	Variety of opinions—agreement in one, that redreſs was greatly wanted; for,	
25 May	Private factors (gomaſtahs) ſet themſelves up for judges of cauſes, particularly where their own intereſts were concerned, or that of their maſters; beating and binding officers of conſiderable ſtation in the country government—ſoldiers and Seapoys attending their orders — they forcibly took away goods, they dealt in all merchandize, fixed their own prices,	G, 3. L, 3.
1 Nov.	extorted payment, hoiſted Engliſh colours, forged paſſes, would give no account of themſelves — ſhops were ſhut up — villages abandoned — and nothing was heard of but outcries on the one hand, againſt the tyranny and oppreſſions of the Engliſh and their gomaſtahs; and on the other, againſt the inſolence and encroachments of	M, 3. to M, 3, h. R, 3.
June	the Nabob and his officers.	
	The Nabob came to Mongheer — Mr. Haſtings returned to Calcutta.	
	Dan-	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
1762.	Dangerous illneſs of the governor for two months — during this time grievances were encreaſed, and a great number of complaints made.	
	It is agreed, that the governor, attended by Mr. Haſtings, ſhould pay a viſit to the Nabob, and regulate affairs with him.	
20 Oct.	They ſet out from Calcutta, and arrived the 3d of November at Moorſhedabad.	
9 Nov.	Letter from the Governor to the Council.	N, 3.
15 Nov.	The board having received accounts of duties on private inland trade, ſend them to the governor, "*That they "may be of ſervice to him, in finally "ſettling theſe matters upon a ſolid "plan.*"	P, 3.
30 Nov.	Accordingly, on his arrival at Mongheer (the 30th) he had frequent converſation with the Nabob, and made inquiries of every kind, jointly with Mr. Haſtings, that he might, before his return, ſettle matters finally upon a ſolid plan.	R, 3.
	The joint letter of the Preſident and Mr. Haſtings to the board, containing the plan of the regulations to prevent the many complaints, and the abuſes of the private trade—this plan correſponds, in a great meaſure, with that of the 18th of May, 1762.	R, 3. S, 3. I, 3.
	The articles of the intended agreement.	
15 Dec.	I. For the Company's *imports* and *exports*, the Company's duſtuck (paſs) ſhall be granted — reſpect to be paid to it.	S, 3.
	II. For the *private trade*, the paſs of the government ſhall be given.	
	III.	

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Year. 1762. Decem.

III. At the time of taking out the last-mentioned pass, the duties shall be paid according to the rates which shall be annexed to this agreement. Letter of reference.

IV. The duties shall be paid *once for all*, so that there shall be no delays on the road, or at the place of sale.

V. If any frauds shall be committed, notice shall be immediately sent to the nearest English factory, and to the nearest officer of the government.

VI. If any person attempts to pass goods, without a dustuck for inland trade—seisure—and notice be given to the nearest English factory, and to the officer of the government.

VII. Goods without a dustuck attempted to be clandestinely passed in company with boats or goods having a dustuck.—

VIII. The gomastahs (factors) in every place, shall carry on their trade freely, and as merchants.—In case of any dispute on either side, application shall be made to the officer of the government, and justice shall be done.

IX. If the gomastah thinks himself aggrieved, he shall complain to his principal, and his principal, according to custom, shall appeal to the *presidency*, and redress shall be obtained.

The rates (mentioned in article III.) were fixed at nine *per cent.* which was less than had been paid by the English themselves at Luckypoor, in their private trade, as appears from the extract of the letter sent by the board to the President, when they gave him directions finally to settle these matters upon a solid plan, (the 15th of November, 62, P, 3.) and it was much P, 3, a.

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	much leſs than was uſually paid by other merchants in their private trade; beſides that, the inconvenience was	
1762.	avoided of making a diverſity of pay-	X, 3.
Dec.	ments, which other merchants were ſubject to. The Preſident, therefore, thought he was doing a great ſervice to the Engliſh merchants, by eſtabliſhing a right to a trade, which had always before been diſputed, and he knew that the profits on that trade would bear ſuch a charge, without the leaſt cauſe of complaint. The Nabob having ſet on foot an expedition againſt Betea and Napaul, which he intended to command in perſon, waited only the Preſident's taking leave of him, to ſet out. In order therefore to bring the buſineſs to a concluſion, he ſummed up all his complaints and	
26 Dec.	propoſals in a letter, the 26th of Dec. and the Preſident immediately wrote him an anſwer, aſſuring him, that the regulations agreed on ſhould be eſtabliſhed, and that orders ſhould be ſent in conſequence, to all the ſubordinate factories. At the ſame time, the Preſident deſired, that the Nabob would give him orders to all his officers, directing them to act in conformity to theſe regulations, which orders ſhould be forwarded with the Preſident's from Calcutta. An exact tranſlation of the Nabob's Letter, T, 3.—An exact tranſlation of the Governor's anſwer, T, 3, a.	S, 3. Compare B, 4.
1763.	The day after the delivery of this letter to the Nabob, the Preſident took his leave of him and proceeded to *Patna*,	T, 3, a.
Jan. 1.	where he arrived the 1ſt of January; there he conferred with Mr. Ellis, and found that his animoſity to the	

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Year. the Nabob had taken root too deep to be moved, and ſaw but little hopes of the poſſibility of a reconciliation. Letter of reference.

1763.

He ſtayed five days at Patna, during which time the Nabob's Deputy laid before him ſome complaints, and requeſted his directions to prevent diſputes in future. The Preſident ſettled moſt of theſe points with Mr. Ellis.—What they principally differed about was. The Burbunna gate of the city, and the gunge or market. The Burbunna gate was a ſmall wicket in

7 Jan.

5 Jan. the north-weſt quarter of the city of Patna. The gunge was a market ſet up without any right, grant, or order, either from the Company, or the Nabob, an authority ſuch as no private perſons can be allowed; and it proved a continual cauſe of conteſt with the country government for the advantage of particulars. U, 3.

14 Jan. The Preſident arrived at Coſſimbazar in his way to Calcutta—On the road he received a letter from the Council, dated 27th of December, being an anſwer to his own, and Mr. Haſtings's joint letter of the 15th of December. If that letter could have been fortunately received in time, yet the propoſal there-mentioned, of leaving Mr. Haſtings with the Nabob, could have been of no uſe, as the Nabob at that time would have been ſetting out on the expedition againſt the kingdom of Napâl. The Nabob's whole military force at this period of time was ſixteen thouſand horſe, and three battalions of Seapoys: at the time of his acceſſion to the ſubaſhip, his army, as it ſtood on the books of the government, W, 3.

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	ment, was upwards of ninety thousand men.	
1763.	Governor's letter to the Council---	
15 Jan.	Mahomed Aly---high duties paid by the Patna and others of the country merchants,	X, 3.
16 Jan.	The President set out in haste the 16th of January from Cossimbazar, upon the news of the French ships in Ballasore road, and arrived in Calcutta the 18th.	
18 Jan.	In the mean time, the Nabob had hastily dispatched copies of the President's Letter, into all parts of the country, with general orders for their observance, without waiting for the President's arrival at Calcutta, from whence it had been agreed the Nabob's Letters, by him delivered to the President, should have been forwarded together with circular letters from the Board to the factories. One of these copies being delivered by the Nabob's officer at Dacca, to the chief of the Factory there, was by him immediately sent to the Board, with the addition of a letter filled with aggravated complaints of the encroachments upon what was called, *our privileges*. The President's letter, which contained the regulations, was translated into English with a pedantic singularity of stile, and an affected exaggeration of such passages, as were called by the Board, an attack upon their rights. Major Carnac was desired to assist at the Board, that he might contribute his censure upon the President's regulations; and a resolution was taken to call down all the members of the Board, from the subordinate factories to the Presidency.	A, 4. Y, 3. D, 4, a. B, 4. D, 4, a.

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	Copy of a letter from Mr. Cartier to the Council, (9th of January) explaining the intention of his letter to the Nabob's collector at Dacca;	
1763. January.	which the President had mentioned to the Council, Dec. 15, (Q, 3.) with a desire that they should prevent the ill consequences that would result from such liberties, assumed by private persons, to threaten the Nabob's officers with the effects of the English power; the Company having expressly forbid letters to be written to the country government by any person excepting the President, or with his approbation; and the Company's design is to keep up the authority of their own government.	Y, 3.
	Relative to the same subject, from Messr. Hay and Johnstone.	Z, 3.
	Copy of the Governor's minute.	
1 Feb.	In which he answers the objections to the regulations, and takes little notice of the indecent invectives against himself.	D, 4, a.
Feb.	Though the President had reason to be offended at the Nabob's haste and want of thought, and at the ill-judged power which he had so suddenly put into the hands of his officers before the President's arrival in Calcutta, to send circular letters from the Board; yet he used every argument, in all his letters to the Nabob, that might remove the alarm given him by the extraordinary appearances in Calcutta, and to persuade him to avoid furnishing, by any act of resentment, an occasion for open hostilities against him. Unhappily, the jealousies had arisen to so great a height, that such palliatives had no longer	

their

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Year. Letter of reference.

their effect, and from this period, the President had not only to contend with the violence of the gentlemen who had now the rule of our affairs,

1763. Feb. but the unconquerable diſtruſt of the Nabob.

Accordingly the remaining extracts from the conſultations, will ſhew the ſteps by which the breach was widened, and a daily increaſe of authority thrown into the hands of the ſubordinate factories; until at length Mr. Ellis thought himſelf at liberty to begin the war, by the attack of the city of Patna, which was ſurpriſed and taken, without reſiſtance, by our troops, (in the night of the 24th of June, 1763) and, by the diſorderly behaviour of the troops engaged in the plunder of the place, was retaken by a ſmall detachment of the Nabob's people the next morning. C, 6.

In the mean time our ſubordinate factories had daily opportunity of making freſh complaints to the Board, of the interruptions of their buſineſs, which was always done with ſuch exaggerations, as ſerved to increaſe the flame. K, 4.

It was pretended, that our weavers could not be protected, becauſe the Preſident had forbid protecting the *dependents of the country government*. The *dependents of the country government*, are plainly thoſe who hold offices, truſts, or rents under the government, and there is an eſtabliſhed diſtinction between *them* and the *weavers*; who are regarded as dependents of the merchants that employ them; and this is a diſtinction well known C, 6. A.

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	to all but thoſe, who through paſſion will not know it.	
1763. Feb.	As the officers of the country government began now to take advantage of our diſſentions, and the Board had reſolved not to confirm the *regulations propoſed in the Governor's letter*, he wrote to the Nabob, that *other regulations* would ſoon be made by the Council, and deſired he would ſend orders to his officers, to reſtrain them from exerciſing any acts of violence or injuſtice, towards the Engliſh agents and gomaſtahs.	D, 4, a. E, 4.
15 Feb.	Mr. Amyatt's minute, and the anſwer to it.	F, 4.
	The general Council aſſembled the 15th of February. It conſiſted of the following members, the Preſident, Mr. Amyatt, Mr. Batſon (chief of Coſſimbazar) Mr. Billers (chief of Luckypoor) Mr. Cartier (chief of Dacca) Mr. Haſtings, Mr. Johnſtone (chief of Burdwan) Mr. Hay, Mr. Marriott, and Mr. Watts. Their buſineſs, or at leaſt their firſt buſineſs, was to ſettle a plan for carrying on their private trade: the Council was opened by a motion from Mr. Amyatt, that Major Carnac ſhould be ſummoned to ſit as a member of this Council. The Major was, by the Company's appointment, to be a member of the Board, when *military affairs only were under debate*; the Preſident diſſented from this motion, and ſo did Mr. Haſtings, and Mr. Watts —but when it was determined that Major Carnac ſhould ſit as a member of the Board; the Preſident moved, that Major Adams ſhould ſit alſo, as it was cuſtomary upon all occaſions	D, 4. C, 4. G, 4.
	to	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	to ſummon *both*, when it was neceſſary to ſummon *either*; and the Preſident thought that Major Adams, from	
1763.		
15 Feb.	his good temper, his mild and unambitious diſpoſition, and his coolneſs in debate, would at leaſt contribute, upon all occaſions, as good aſſiſtances to the conſultations of the Board, as any other military officer whatever.	
	Mr. Amyatt's Minute and the Anſwer.	G,4.H,4
	The Preſident continues to try every means of preventing the dangerous conſequences he apprehended to the Company's affairs from violent meaſures——He therefore avoided every word that could inflame.	F,4,G,4. H, 4.
	He hoped, that the Nabob might be induced to conſent to, and rather ſubject his government to ſome loſſes and inconveniencies, than engage in a war, to his *inevitable ruin* and the *Company's great detriment*.	
	He therefore gives up, as far as poſſible, his own opinion to the Board.	I, 4.
	Major Carnac claims the command of the detachment ſtationed *at Patna*; which he had quitted by an order of the Board the 6th of June.	I, 4. F,2.D,2.
	The gunge or market, mentioned in the letter from the Chief and Council at Patna to the Board, is conſidered in	K, 4.
18 Feb.	The conſultation (Feb. 18) together with,	
	1. The regulations ſettled with the Nabob by the Preſident,	
	2. The Burbunna gate at Patna.	
	3. The diſpoſition of the troops and major Carnac's letter.	
	Conſultation (Feb. 22) on the ſame ſubject.	L, 4.
	Agreed, the ſeveral members of the	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	Board ſhould prepare their opinions in writing.—Compare March 1.	
1763. 1 Mar.	Reſolved, that we have a right to trade in ſalt, betel-nut, and every other article of *inland trade* duty free, and with the Company's duſtuck, equally with the *foreign* trade.	M, 4.
	Agreed, at the ſame time, that ſomething ſhould be paid to the Nabob, in conformity to the uſual practice, not as the Nabob's right, but as an indulgence to him from the Board. Therefore there ſhall be paid on ſalt two and a half per cent.	
	The Nabob returned from the Napâl expedition, where he had been defeated; his letters (22d and 26th of Feb.)	N, 4.
	The Preſident's letter to the Nabob, explaining the reſolutions of the Board, written in the uſual form of the country correſpondence; without expreſſing on the face of it, any diſſents there might have been in Council.	N, 4, a.
	It is moved, that the letter ſhould be written to him by the Board, that the Nabob might be informed, that all power belonged to them; but this was over-ruled, upon proof that he knew, and had a long while known,	
7 Mar.	that all power did belong to the Board.	N, 4, b.
	Diſputes were now come to ſuch a height, that it was neceſſary either to put an end to them by a peaceable negociation, or to declare an open war with the Nabob.—It was agreed, that one of the members of the Board ſhould go on a deputation to the Nabob. Mr. Amyatt offered himſelf for the ſervice, which was unanimouſly accepted, and, at his own requeſt,	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	queſt, Mr. Hay was afterwards joined with him in the ſame commiſſion.	
5 March	Letters from the Nabob (5th of March 1763) in which he deſcribes the ſtate of his country, and his approaching ruin.	O, 4, a. O, 4, b.
April.	From Dacca advices arrived of a fray between the officers of the government and a party of Seapoys, that were ſent to releaſe ſome boats that had been ſtopped at Jaffier gunge, in which the brother of the *Chokydar* (Collector of the cuſtoms) was ſlain or dangerouſly wounded. The ſame day a letter came from the gentlemen at Patna with intelligence, that they had ſent an officer with three companies of Seapoys to *Mow*, to free the buſineſs of the Factory, and to ſeize ſome perſons who had given them interruptions. This the officer effected, taking Aſhbur Cawn, the Nabob's Collector, priſoner, whom he carried to Patna, and left a guard of 12 Seapoys at Taajepoor, to take care of the Company's ſalt-petre.—The Nabob incenſed at this attempt, made almoſt before his eyes, in the firſt impulſe of his paſſion, ſent out a party of 500 horſe to intercept the Seapoys and releaſe his officer, but arriving too late for this ſervice, they marched againſt the ſmall detachment at Taajepoor and attacked it. The Seapoys defended themſelves with great bravery, but four of the number being killed, the reſt ſubmitted, and were carried priſoners before the Nabob, who contented himſelf with reprimanding the Gomaſtah for being the inſtrument of ſuch an inſult on his dignity, and diſ-	O, 4.

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Year. missed him.—The Nabob's behaviour upon this occasion shews how much he was irritated, and at the same time how careful he was, even upon the greatest provocation, to avoid coming to extremities.—Mr. Ellis was credulous enough to believe upon this occasion, that the Nabob was resolved to march from Pouneac, where he then lay encamped, and to attack the Factory, as appears by the Patna letter (15th of March)—but the Nabob proceeded directly to Mongheer, and put an end to these suspicions of him. Letter of reference. O, 4, c.

1763. March

Day after day fresh disturbances happened, which scarcely need to be marked out particularly, as they are no more than might naturally be expected, in a kingdom where there subsisted two distinct governments, each issuing out orders oftentimes contradictory, and each requiring obedience. P, 4.

It may be proper, however, to mention one occurence, as it was the subject of great debate in the Council.—In the President's letter to the Board (S, 3.) he mentions, that in the course of the conferences with the Nabob, upon the subject of the duties the Nabob observed, that if the English Gomastahs were permitted to trade in all parts and all commodities custom free, his customs would be of so little value to him, that it would be much more for his interest to lay trade entirely open, and collect no customs upon any kind of merchandize; which would draw a number of merchants into his country; and at the same time "it "would effectually," he added, "cut "off the principal subject of the dif-

"putes

Year.		Letter of reference.
	"putes which had disturbed the good "understanding between us."—This	
1763.	design he now actually put into execution.	
28 Mar.	A perſonal aſperſion and the anſwer.	Q, 4.
30 Mar.	Two letters from the Nabob, complaining of the injuries done him by the Board, and the inſults to which he was daily expoſed, in very warm and expreſſive terms.	Q, 4, a. R, 4.
	Skirmiſh near Gyah.—Patna letter 23d of March.	R, 4, a.
	Conſultation April 1, 1763.	
	Obſervations on the Nabob's letters.	T, 4.
	Agreed, that Meſſ. Amyatt and Hay, ſhould proceed as far as Coſſimbazar.	
28 Mar.	Inſtructions to Meſſ. Amyatt and Hay.	U, 4.
	Inſolent letter of Mahomed Aly, to Syed-Cawn.	W, 4.
	Report that the Nabob had ordered all the mulberry-trees, and cotton-ſhrubs to be deſtroyed — it gains credit for ſome time.	W, 4, a.
	Plan for the operations of the war.	X, 4.
14 Apr.	Propoſed, that Mr. Ellis, and the gentlemen of Patna, ſhould begin the war upon the bare appearance of hoſtile intention in the Nabob,	
18 Apr.	Letter received from Mr. Ellis and his council—their Contempt of the Nabob and his forces.	Y, 4.
	Perſonal aſperſion and reply.	Z, 4.
20 Apr.	Meſſ. Amyatt and Hay proceed on their deputation.	A, 5.
	Nabob's letter, 2d of April.	
	Conſultation, 20th of April, 63.	
	Copy of a letter from the Nabob to the East India Company, dated the 21ſt of April.	C, 5.

From

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Year.		Letter of reference.
1763.	From the good ſenſe and temper apparent in this letter, the Preſident began to flatter himſelf with the hopes of a reconciliation, eſpecially as the Nabob had always profeſſed a favourable opinion of Mr. Amyatt; and as, by this time, the report of our forces being on the march, muſt have loſt its credit with the Nabob, and his objections to the viſit muſt vaniſh of courſe. The Preſident, therefore, did all he could to improve the favourable opportunity — but it was now too late.	
9 May	Letter from the Chief and Council at Patna, who are offended at the orders of the Board—that they do not give ſufficient credit to their intelligence, which was oftentimes miſtaken.	D, 5. O, 4, e.
2 May	Letter from the Nabob to the Governor, relative to the *Seets*—Bankers.	E, 5.
	Seizure of Mahomed Aly—he is ſent priſoner to Calcutta.	O, 5. E, 5.
18 May	Copy of a letter from Meſſrs. Amyatt and Hay.	
	Some boats laden with arms for our troops at Patna, ſtopped by the Nabob's people at Mongheer.	G, 5.
	The firſt advice of this affair was in a letter from Meſſrs. Amyatt and Hay (26th of May) which incloſed the Nabob's reply to the demands of the Board; and was confirmed by their letters of the 29th and 31ſt of the ſame month.	I, 5. H, 5.
	Detention of the boats—cypher to carry on correſpondence in caſe of a rupture.	K, 5.
	Letters from the Nabob, with complaints &c.	L, 5.

General

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Year.	General Council—its reſolutions— The Governor being ill, ſends his opinion to the Board.	Letter of reference.
1763.	On the 13th, letter from Meſſrs. Amyatt and Hay, adviſing, that the arms were ſtill detained.	P, 5. P, 5. Q, 5.
	Mr. Ellis orders the troops to hold themſelves in readineſs to march to Patna the 5th and 6th of June.	R, 5.
18 June	Conſultation of the 18th of June. —Diſpoſition for the march of the troops.	
	It was now judged neceſſary to come to ſome certain reſolution with reſpect to the government of the country, ſuppoſing the removal of Meer Coſſim from the Subadary ſhould be the iſſue of the war—and for reimburſing to the Company the expences of it; and to private merchants, the loſſes which they may ſuſtain by the ravages of the country; ſee the	U, 5.
20 June	Conſultation 20th of June.	
14 June	Letter from Meſſrs. Amyatt and Hay (14th of June) they ſend a duplicate of the cypher—a note in cypher.	
	The next letter a ſhort glimpſe of hope (19th of June.)	X, 5.
	The Nabob conſents to releaſe the boats with arms immediately, and will treat, without perſiſting in his preliminary demand of removing the troops from Patna—The boats releaſed 22d of June.	A, 6. A, 6, 2.
	On the 2d of July orders given for the army to march—report that Mr. Amyatt was ſet out for Patna, and that Mr. Ellis had attacked and taken that city.	B, 6.

The

Year.		Letter of reference.
	The Nabob Meer Jaffier proclaimed the 7th of July 1763.	
	Whilſt the Board were ſitting, a	
1763.	letter arrived from Meer Coſſim, and	E, 6.
July.	confirmed, what had been for ſome	E, 6, a.
	days apprehended, the news of the defeat of our detachment at Patna.—The city had been ſurpriſed, and taken without reſiſtance by our troops, in the night of the 24th of June; and, by the diſorderly behaviour of the troops engaged in the plunder of the place, was retaken by a ſmall party of the Nabob's people the next morning; after which loſs the ſcattered remains of the army retired acroſs the river, and were then all deſtroyed or taken priſoners.	
	This was followed by a note from the gentlemen of Coſſimbazar, dated the night of the 4th of July, with intelligence, that their Factory was ſurrounded by a numerous force.	E, 6, a.
	The Preſident, that there might appear to be no diſſenſions to impede the vigorous proſecution of the war, conſents to ſign the proclamation.	F, 6.
	Conſultation, 6th of July, 1763.	F, 6, a.
	Articles the Nabob Meer Jaffier ſhould agree to.	H, 6. G, 6.
	On the 11th the treaty was concluded.	K, 6.
	Demands made on the part of the Nabob Jaffier.	L, 6.
	"By the ſuperior courage and diſcipline of our troops, and the admirable conduct and activity of Major Adams, their commander, the war was brought to a concluſion, by the expulſion of Meer Coſſim beyond the Carrumnaſſa, in	
	"little	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
	"little more than five months from its commencement, with inconsiderable loſs, except that of the unhappy priſoners, who fell into Meer Coſſim's hands at the beginning of the troubles, and were inhumanly maſſacred by his orders, on the 5th of October."	M, 6.
1763. Oct.	"The firſt intimation of ſuch a deſign was received in a letter from Meer Coſſim to Major Adams, a few days after the attack of the intrenchments at Oodwa Nulla. An exact tranſlation of it, Dated the 9th of Sept. 1763."	
Sept. 17 Sept.	Letter from the Preſident to Coſſim Aly Cawn, dated the 7th of Sept.	
	Letter from Major Adams, dated the 14th of Sept.	N, 6.
	Strange ſtate of mind of Coſſim Aly—with aſſeverations and oaths he denies he had any hand in the death of Mr. Amyatt who was killed on his return to Calcutta, and that it happened by miſtake, without his order;	N, 6, a. M, 6.
Oct. 5, and 7.	——laments it, and apologizes for it; and at the ſame time ſeems quite inſenſible of having done amiſs, in the orders given for the maſſacre of the Engliſh priſoners that remained in his power.	N, 6, b.
	Letters that might tend to determine the queſtion, how far there had been a *concerted deſign* in any members of the Council, to diſpoſſeſs the Nabob Coſſim of the ſubahſhip, and to procure the King's (Mogul's) nomination of another perſon in his place?	P. 6. Q. 6.
	Extract of a letter from Mr. George Gray,	

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Year.		Letter of reference.
1764.	Gray, Reſident at Maulda, to the Governor (dated the 7th of January 1764.)	
7 Jan. 23 Mar.	Letter the 23d of March 1764, from Mr. Senior.	S. 6.
	Extract from a paper of repreſentations, delivered by the Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn to Major Adams, to be laid before the Board---All of them complaining of the tyranny and oppreſſions of the Engliſh Gomaſtahs in carrying on their trade.	S, 6, a.
	As ſoon as the war with Meer Coſſim was ended, and the Nabob Meer Jaffier was in full poſſeſſion of his government, the Preſident thought himſelf at liberty to return to England; which he had before declared his reſolution of doing, when there ſhould be no longer any public call upon him for his ſtay. He accordingly acquainted the Board with his intention, in a letter 19 Dec. 1763.	S. 6, b. T, 6.
	The anſwer of the Council, unanimouſly requeſting the Preſident to ſtay another ſeaſon, to "prevent the "country and the Company's trade "from being again expoſed to the "hazard and deſolation of war."	T, 6, a. T, 6, b.

N. B. The Publiſher of the following Authentic Papers has been adviſed to give a chronological connection of dates and facts, which he hopes may be of uſe to the reader in underſtanding them. The greateſt care has been taken to print them correctly. If any literal miſtake of the preſs is diſcovered, the candid reader will pardon it. At the end of page 264, at the cloſe of this Volume, in ſome part of the Impreſſion, the word *Finis*, is placed inſtead of *the End of Vol.* I.

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ORIGINAL PAPERS

RELATIVE TO THE

DISTURBANCES in BENGAL.

A— *Tranſlation of a Copy of the* PHIRMAUN.

TO all governors, officers, and managers of our affairs, Jagheerdars, Fougedars, Karnries, Rahdars, Guzerbauns, and Zemindars of the preſent and time to come, in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, Port of Hougly, and other Ports of the aforeſaid provinces, who hope for our royal favour.

Be it known unto you all, that in theſe days of our triumphant reign, Mr. John Surman and Kauja Sirhud, agents on the part of the Engliſh Company, have preferred a petition, in our juſt and equitable preſence, to the following purpoſe: that, in conſequence of a decree of his moſt ſacred majeſty Shah — deceaſed, and former grants, the Engliſh Company are exempted from cuſtoms in

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all parts of our dominions, except the port of Surat, and pay annually, into our royal treasury, at the port of Hougly, three thousand rupees, as a tribute, in lieu of customs; and they hope that, according to former grants, our royal Phirmaun will be vouchsafed to them.

Our absolute and high command is passed, that you well knowing, that whatever goods and merchandize their agents may bring into or carry out from the ports, borders and quarters of these provinces, either by land or water, are exempt from duties, shall leave them to buy and sell at their own free liberty, shall annually receive the established tribute of three thousand rupees, and on no other account whatever impede or interrupt them. Moreover,

If any where any of their effects shall be made away with, you are to use all diligence in the recovery thereof, and shall punish the thieves, and deliver over the goods to the proper owner. Further, whereſoever they may set up a factory, and buy and sell goods and merchandize, you are to afford them help and support in their just concerns, and with justice and fairness cause to be repaid unto their agents, whatever just demand they may have upon any merchant, weaver, or other person, and you are to allow no one to molest their agents, nor shall you stop for customs, &c. boats hired by them, or of their own property.

B — *Translation of the Treaty executed by* MEER JAFFIER.

I. WHatever articles were agreed upon in the time of peace with the Nabob Serajah Doula, I agree to comply with.

II. The enemies of the English are my enemies, whether they be Indians or Europeans.

III. All

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III. All the effects and factories, belonging to the French in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa, ſhall remain in poſſeſſion of the Engliſh, nor will I ever allow them any more to ſettle in the three provinces.

IV. In conſideration of the loſſes, which the Engliſh Company have ſuſtained by the plunder and capture of Calcutta by the Nabob, and the charges occaſioned by the maintenance of their officers, I will give them a crore of rupees.

V. For the effects plundered from the Engliſh inhabitants of Calcutta, I agree to give fifty lack of rupees.

VI. For the effects plundered from the Gentoos, Muſſelmen, and other ſubjects of Calcutta, twenty lack of rupees ſhall be given.

VII. For the effects plundered from the Armenian inhabitants of Calcutta, I will give the ſum of ſeven lack of rupees. The diſtribution of the ſums allotted the natives, Engliſh inhabitants, Gentoos, and Muſſelmen, ſhall be left to the Admiral, and Colonel Clive, and the reſt of the Council, to be diſpoſed of by them to whom they think proper.

VIII. Within the ditch, which ſurrounds the borders of Calcutta, are tracts of land belonging to ſeveral Zeminders, beſides this, I will grant the Engliſh Company ſix hundred yards without the ditch.

IX. All the land lying to the ſouth of Calcutta, as far as Culpee, ſhall be under the Zemindaree of the Engliſh Company, and all the officers of thoſe parts ſhall be under their juriſdiction, the revenues to be paid by them (the Company) in the ſame manner with other Zeminders.

X. Whenever I demand the Engliſh aſſiſtance, I will be at the charge of the maintenance of their troops.

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XI. I will not erect any new fortifications below Hougly near the river Ganges.

XII. As ſoon as I am eſtabliſhed in the government of the three provinces, the aforeſaid ſums ſhall be faithfully paid.

Dated 15 Ramazan in the fourth year of the king's reign.

C — *Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Scrafton, *at* Moradbaug *to* P. R. Pearkes, *Eſq; and the Council at* Dacca, *without Date, but wrote between the fourteenth and twenty-firſt of* July 1758.

Gentlemen,

I Acquainted you by expreſs Pulwar of the complaints made to me by the Nabob's Meer Munſhee of your oppoſing Nehimodee, in poſſeſſing himſelf of Ruſſelpoor and Hydrapoor, for which he had received ample Perwanahs from the Nabob's Divan.

There is likewiſe a complaint lodged againſt an Engliſh Gomaſtah at Chilmarree, that he gives protection to numbers of merchants who trade there, which has proved a loſs to the government of ſeventy thouſand rupees. Alſo, ſeveral complaints of under-protection to the Zemindars, tenants and others. My general anſwer is, that I will write to the gentlemen at Dacca.

I perſuade myſelf, that moſt of theſe complaints are without grounds, and that you will do your utmoſt to prevent the encroachment of your black ſervants.

Ca—*Ex-*

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Ca— *Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Haſtings *at* Moradbaug *to* W. B. Sumner, *Eſq; Chief at* Dacca, *dated about the thirtieth of* January, 1759.

I Have received a long letter from the Shahzada, in which he complains, that you have begun to carry on a large trade in ſalt, and betel-nut, and refuſe to pay the duties on thoſe articles, which has likewiſe encouraged others to do the ſame in your name; which practice, if continued, will oblige him to throw up his poſt of Shahbunder Droga. In the affair of Mr. Chevalier's ſalt you informed me, that you had paid the Shahbunder duties for that parcel; the ſame information, I think, I received from Mr. Waller. I have, in another letter, acquainted you with the ſame complaint from Shahzada. What other circumſtances there may be in this affair, that might prove to give a different light into it from what I have conceived from the particulars already mentioned, I know not; but I muſt deſire, that you will prevent theſe complaints from going before the Nabob. We have not, I believe, any right to trade in ſalt and betel-nut; at leaſt, it was never (that I know of) ſtipulated in our favour with the Nabob; and with reſpect to the ſalt trade, I myſelf know, that none of the Company's ſervants, not the colonel himſelf, has ever engaged in it without the Nabob's Perwanah.

Cb— *Extract of another Letter from the ſame to the ſame. Dated* Dec. 12, 1758.

THE ſecond complaint is, that an Engliſh gentleman (Mr. Chevalier, I ſuppoſe) has carried a large cargo of ſalt to Chilmaree, which

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is an unpriviledged trade; and that he has taken *Muchulcas* from all the other traders in the ſame article, by which they are not allowed to ſell any ſalt till his ſhall be all diſpoſed of.

Cc— *Extract of another from the ſame to the ſame. Dated* July 26, 1759.

SIR,

MANY complaints have been laid before the Nabob againſt Mr. Chevalier, who is accuſed of having acted in a very violent and arbitrary manner at Chilmaree, and Coreegaum, by oppreſſing the merchants of thoſe places in the monopoly of ſeveral commodities, particularly ſalt and tobacco, no one being allowed to buy or ſell either of thoſe articles but with his permiſſion.

I deſire, that you will make the ſtricteſt enquiry into this, and take effectual care to prevent ſuch complaints for the future.

A tranſlation of a letter to the Wadadar of the Pergunah, under the ſeal of Mr. Chevalier, in anſwer to the demand made by him, to know by what authority he came into thoſe parts, I ſend you herewith, on which I ſhall only make this remark, that the magiſtrates and public officers of the government have an undoubted right to ſee the Company's Duſtuck, having no other way to diſtinguiſh between the agents of the Company, and others uſurping the Engliſh name, nor the Company any means beſides to ſecure their own priviledges. It cannot, therefore, but appear ſtrange in any perſon employed by the Engliſh, that they ſhould make any difficulty to ſhew by what powers they are commiſſioned; unleſs they are conſcious that they are guilty of practices which ought to be concealed: at leaſt, ſuch an abrupt behaviour cannot but tend to create an ill-will

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ill will against the English, and aggravate every complaint made against them.

P. S. I send you a copy of the Wadadars letter. The circumstance of the Tolingas being sent by Mr. Chevalier is only an aggravation, but the rest cannot be without foundation; I must insist that you either put an entire stop to those complaints, or recall Mr. Chevalier, who, I am convinced, has not behaved in so moderate, or prudent a manner as he ought.

Cd— *Copy of Mr.* Chevalier's *Letter to* Meer Atta Oolla, Wadadar *of the* Pergunah *of* Baharbund.

THE letter, which you sent to my writer, I have received. You write, that if I belong to the English, I must have the English Sunnud, and desire a copy of it to be sent to you. In answer, I ask, who are you that I should send you a copy of the Sunnud? If you want to be informed, who I am, and who sent me, send a man to the Chief, who will answer you. If the people of your Pergunah are guilty of any insolence to mine, I shall chastise them handsomely for it. Forbid your people, that they enter into no quarrels with mine; if they do without reason, they shall be punished; if my people behave ill to your's, do you write me word of it, and I will punish them.

Ce— *Extract of another Letter from Mr.* Hastings *to Mr.* Sumner. *Dated* 8 Dec. 1758.

I Heartily congratulate you on your appointment to the chiefship of Dacca, and wish you all desireable success in that station. I own, I dreaded the appointment of some other person, who would not perhaps have acted with the same moderation,

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which I am perſuaded you have always done, notwithſtanding the numberleſs complaints from your quarter; and therefore can without compliment aſſure you, that I ſincerely rejoice that this office has fallen to your lot.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor (*Mr.* HOLWELL) *to Mr.* HASTINGS. *Dated* 11 Feb. 1760.

WE have returned no reply to the Nabob's Perwanahs to the council for two reaſons; his large ſeal affixed to them is derogatory to the Company's honour, and addreſſes of this kind to the council muſt be at all events quaſhed in the beginning, or the dignity of the preſident will fall to nothing. If he pleaſes to addreſs me on thoſe ſubjects, I will reply to him; in the mean time, I beg to know on what pretence we are prohibited trading in the two articles of ſalt and betel-nut.

D—*Copy of the Memorial delivered by the Preſident* (Mr. Holwell) *to the ſelect Committee, upon the Arrival of Mr.* Van Sittart, *to ſucceed him in the Government.*

AS my health, and the conſideration of other circumſtances, will ſoon oblige me to requeſt permiſſion from the board to reſign the ſervice, I beg leave, previous to that ſtep, to accompany this ſhort addreſs with ſuch remarks and memorials, as may convey to the preſident (ſo lately arrived amongſt us) a knowledge of the preſent ſtate and ſituation of the Company's affairs, as they ſtand connected with, or are dependent on the Government of Bengal.

To form a judgment of the preſent ſtate of things in Bengal, it will be needful to retroſpect on the

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he late revolution of the year 1757, when neceſſity, and a juſt reſentment for the moſt cruel injuries, obliged us to enter into a plan to deprive Serajah Dowla of his government, which was accordingly done, and Meer Mahomed Jaffier Aly Cawn fixed by us at the head of the provinces on certain conditions, and under a treaty of alliance offenſive and defenſive.

A ſhort ſpace of time fully proved how unworthy the family thus raiſed! The conditions of the treaty could not be obtained from the Nabob without being in a manner extorted from him, and by a thouſand ſhifts and evaſions it was plain to the world not a ſingle article would ever have been complied with, had the Nabob been inveſted with power ſufficient to have prevented it, or could he have diveſted himſelf of his own fears and apprehenſions from our reſentments.

Tuncaws on the lands were however granted for the payment of the ſtipulated ſums at particular times, by which the Royroyan, Mutta Suddier, Dewans, and every Harpey employed in the Zemindary and revenues became our implacable enemies; and, conſequently, a party was ſoon raiſed at the Durbar, headed by the Nabob's ſon, Miran and Rajah Ragebullub, who were daily planning ſchemes to ſhake off their dependance on the Engliſh, and continually urging to the Nabob, that till this was effected, his government was a name only. The Nabob, ſomething irritated by the protection given Rajah Doolubram, and weak and irreſolute in himſelf, fell too ſoon into theſe ſentiments.

The firſt ſtep taken to accompliſh this meaſure of independance was, to aſſaſſinate and take off, under one pretence or other, every miniſter and officer at the Durbar, who they knew were attached to the Engliſh; in conſequence of which,

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Coja Haddy, and Coffim Aly Cawn, first and second Buxy, were assassinated in November and December 1758; and after many attempts made on the persons of Rheim Cawn, and Golam Shah, his uncle and Brother, they were obliged to seek an asylum with the Shahzada in 1759. Roydoolub, his son, and four brothers, were proscribed on no account, but that of the various informations he gave us and his firm attachment; this family would have fallen a sacrifice, had they not been rescued out of the Nabob's hands by force of arms. Ameer Beg Cawn would from the same cause have suffered the same fate, had he not given his solemn engagement to quit the kingdom, which he accordingly did.

The next project of the Durbar appeared, by every concurring subsequent circumstance, to be a secret negotiation with the Dutch, for transporting troops from Batavia into these provinces, that with their united force a stop might be put to the power of the English. This scheme was conducted by Rajah Ragebullub on the one part, and Toocratoojar for the Dutch on the other, about October or November 1758, the period when the Deccan expedition took place, and the garrison was much reduced.

Soon after, the provinces were invaded by the Shahzada on the side of Patna, and Colonel Clive with our military and seapoys joined the Nabob and his troops, and by forced marches preserved Rajah Ramnarain steady in his duty, and arrived just in time to save that city and province, and drove the Prince, though the undoubted heir to the kingdom, beyond the Currumnassa, and brought the Bouge poor, &c. countries into subjection to the Nabob.

The prince more than once wrote to the colonel, offering any terms for the company and himself,

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ſelf, on condition the Engliſh would quit the Nabob and join his arms; but the colonel thinking it incompatible with our treaty of alliance with the Nabob, gave the prince no encouragement.

At the end of the campaign, the colonel returned to us in June 1759, and the two Nabobs arrived in the city about the ſame time, with full conviction of our firm attachment to his government and family, and our religious regard to our treaties. What ſenſe they retained of theſe obligations, and how long, will appear by and by.

The Nabobs, thinking themſelves now better eſtabliſhed in the government, and ſcreened by ſuch a ſure and powerful ſupport as our arms, began to ſet no bounds to their cruelties, oppreſſions, and exactions from thoſe who had any thing to be plundered of; and this barely received a check from the ſevere and frequent remonſtrances of the colonel to the Nabob, on a conduct which he told him muſt, from the general deteſtation of the people, end in the deſtruction of himſelf, his family, and country. His troops clamorous at the ſame time for their pay, whilſt the Nabob, in place of appropriating the ſums he had acquired by repeated aſſaſſinations to the juſt demands of his Jemmadars and troops, laviſhed the ſame in boundleſs extravagances.

About the latter end of July 1759, the young Nabob arrived on a pretended viſit to colonel Clive, but the real motive was, to negotiate, if poſſible, the delivery of Rajah Doolubram, and two or three other articles given him in charge by his father, ſuch as the ſurrender of the Tuncaw Lands on ſecurity, the borrowing of us a large ſum of money, &c. In theſe the ſon proving unſucceſsful, a member of the board of ſelect committee was, at his deſire, ſent to accompany him to the city, to reconcile the Nabob to the negatives his ſon had received

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received in Calcutta, and at the same time to intimate to him the advice we had received, that a large armament was fitting out at Batavia destined for Bengal; and to penetrate, if possible, his sentiments on this occasion, and what resolution he would come to, in case that force arrived in the river.

He was not to be reconciled to the refusals his son met with, but determined to try his own power, and declared his intention to pay the colonel a visit himself in September, which he did with success equal to his son; he seemed to make light of the Dutch intelligence, and not to give credit to it, though he discovered much perplexity; however, he wrote a letter to the colonel, demanding our assistance by virtue of the treaty of alliance, in case the Dutch troops came into the river.

The armament arrived during his visit; his stay after that was short, his mind much embarrassed, and his whole subsequent conduct gave most undoubted proofs, that the Dutch forces were arrived by his invitation. That such were the sentiments of colonel Clive, and the council, appears from the narrative of that Dutch business transmitted to the honourable the Court of Directors, and to our several admirals: a perusal of this narrative will convince the impartial, that the Nabob, in his behaviour on this occasion, was guilty of a most flagitious breach of the article of the treaty of alliance, and that from this period no terms whatever should have been preserved with him, after such unexampled treachery and ingratitude, to which, by way of illustration, we may add the subsequent farces carried on between the Nabobs and the Dutch, as set forth in the several letters between Mr. Holwell and the resident at Moradbaug on this subject; by reference to which it will appear most manifest, that the Nabob's real

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real intentions never were to diſtreſs effectually that people, but on the contrary, were only aimed to amuſe and deceive us, witneſs, the private orders and inſtructions given to Meer Coſſim Aly Cawn, ſo oppoſite to his publick ones, when he was ſent down to demoliſh the new works at Chinſura; in the apparent delays of this ſervice Coſſim Aly Cawn ſuffered much in the opinion of the late preſident, though unjuſtly, as we ſubſequently learnt. He was acting ſtrictly conformable to the private orders of the Nabob.

In the beginning of the year 1760, the Shahzada invaded the provinces again with a force more reſpectable than the preceding year, both in troops and commanders, by the revolt of Comgar Cawn, Golam Shaw, Reim Cawn and others; the Nabob by this time having made himſelf and his family ſo univerſally hated, that we may juſtly ſay, there was hardly a man in the provinces that did not wiſh ſucceſs to the prince.

Colonel Clive reſigned the government early in February 1760, about which time the Morattas entered the province from the ſouthward, and penetrated into the Burdwan country, making a conſiderable diverſion in favour of the prince. The Nabob demanded a body of our troops, ſeapoys, and field-artillery for the defence of this country, to join his under the command of Meer Coſſim Aly Cawn, which was granted; but their uſe was fruſtrated by the Nabob's puſillanimous, irregular and contradictory orders to his general Coſſim Aly Cawn, to march with our troops to Cutwa and the city, in place of marching directly to the ſouthward. Thus this country fell a prey to the Morattas, and a ſtop was put to the collecting our Tuneaws, in which was our greateſt dependance and expectation for the ſervice of the year. (Vide military correſpondence in the months of February and

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and March 1760) Our troops under the command of major Caillaud had taken the field; in conjunction with the Nabob's, under the command of his ſon, ſometime before the Colonel's departure for Europe, and ſhaped their rout towards Patna, whilſt the Nabob himſelf remained in the neighbourhood of Rajamaul, a check on Cuddeim Hoſein Cawn, Nabob of Poornea (then in rebellion) until Shubut's advance, recalled him to the city.

A regular and particular detail of the tranſactions of this laborious campaign will not be expected here, as the progreſs of it will preſent itſelf in the courſe of the military correſpondence laid before the committee, therefore general remarks on the ſucceſs, effects, and probable conſequences, will be ſufficient.

This, like the former ones, has produced no definite action or ſtroke to lay the leaſt foundation of peace to the provinces. In the courſe of this campaign three morally ſure and important opportunities were loſt by the cowardice of both the Nabobs; the firſt, when the young Nabob refuſed to join the major in the immediate purſuit of the Shahzada when routed near Patna; the ſecond, when the old Nabob refuſed to comply with the majors requeſt and demand to croſs his horſe over the Burdwan river, and attack the prince when united with Shabut, &c.; the third, when in the late purſuit of Cuddeim Hoſſein Cawn, the young Nabob refuſed to lead or detach his horſe to the major's aſſiſtance, by which a general action might have been brought on: but on the contrary, he kept encamped two or three miles in the major's rear, as if his intentions were to leave our troops, without horſe, a ſacrifice to the enemy.

Had the moſt been made of either of theſe favourable occaſions, the ſtroke had, in all human probability,

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probability, been deciſive; as it is, it only proves, that we continue to draw our ſwords in ſupport of a family, moſt unworthy the government they have by our aſſiſtance uſurped, and this to the manifeſt hazard and ruin of the Company's trade and concerns.

On the near approach of the major to Patna, he received a Phirmaun from the prince, of which he adviſed the board, and promiſed to forward a copy, but no wonder, that, in the courſe of ſo extraordinary and fatiguing a campaign, it ſhould eſcape his memory. On his arrival in the Beerboom country, after the unexpected march he formed upon his defeat, the preſident received intelligence, that the old Nabob had actually a Vackeel in the Shahzada's camp, and that he was negociating a ſeparate treaty with him. This appeared to have ſo dangerous a tendency, that any means were eligible to obtain the truth of it.

The late preſident, by a third hand, procured Aſſid Jumma Cawn Rajah of Beerboom, and his uncle Comgar Cawn, to be wrote to on this ſubject of the Nabob's Vackeel and treaty. This ſoon produced a Phirmaun from the prince, incloſing a copy of the Nabob's Arzdaſht. The preſident made no reply to the Phirmaun, but returned a ſhort one to Comgar Cawn's letter which accompanied it, intimating, that copies carried little validity where originals were in being.

A few days before the prince begun his retreat from the hills, the preſident received a ſecond Phirmaun from him, incloſing the original Arzdaſht from the Nabob. All that can be ſaid, either for or againſt belief being given to the authenticity either of the copy or original, will appear on the face of the correſpondence, in two letters from the preſident to the major, under dates the twenty-ſecond, and twenty-fourth of April laſt, and to Mr

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Mr. Haſtings, the twentieth of the ſame month. To theſe we may further add, that if they are forgeries, they have yet this corroborating ſignature of truth, that the whole tenor of the Nabob's conduct moſt exactly tallies with the terms of the Arzdaſht. But to reſume the courſe of the campaign to the preſent time.

Patna is relieved, and ſecure for the preſent. Cuddeim Hoſein Cawn is diſpoſſeſſed of his government of Purnea, and driven out of the country, but with all his treaſure and valuable effects, to the reproach and infamy of the young Nabob's name; ſo that, after the rains, he will eaſily join the prince with the eſſentials of war, which he only wants to harraſs the provinces five years longer. The young Nabob is taken off by a flaſh of lightning, and our troops are gone into quarters. After having done as much, or more than could be expected from men ſo wretchedly ſupported by thoſe very people for whoſe preſervation they endured every diſtreſs and fatigue, and braved variety of deaths.

The prince has found means to preſerve himſelf and forces a footing on this ſide the Soane, and in the neighbourhood of Patna. It is ſaid, Comgar Cawn has forſaken the cauſe of the prince, which appears moſt improbable, not only on account of his having no other chance for reimburſing himſelf but perſeverance; but becauſe we have undoubted intelligence, that three thouſand of his troops have lately joined his nephew Affid Jumma Cawn, who has thrown off his allegiance to the Nabob. Theſe troops are, doubtleſs, lodged to make an early and important diverſion at the opening of the next campaign, by entering the Burdwan country as ſoon as the prince begins to be in motion above. And thus our ſupplies from thence will be again cut off, and the Company's affairs be reduced to the laſt extremity of diſtreſs, unleſs the approaching

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approaching ships of the season relieve us, or the whole Tuncaws on those lands could be collected during the rains. The latter is hardly possible in any serviceable degree, and the former carries very little probability. The late proposal of the Nabob's to pay our balances, and resume his lands, is devoutly to be wished; but it is likewise to be feared he has no meaning in it.

The various reasons, urged against the measure of supporting the present government longer on the plan, we have been some time pursuing, to the heavy injury of the Company, with various expedients to rescue them from manifest approaching ruin, are set forth at large, in the military correspondence, in letters from the president to Major Caillaud, under dates the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth of May, fourteenth of June, and third of July; to Mr. Amyatt, under dates the twenty-fifth and thirtieth of May; to Mr. Hastings, under dates the twenty-fourth of May, thirtieth of June, and fifth and eighth of July. Both the reasons and expedients, in the present state of affairs, seem rather to confirm than contra-indicate any other; however, the sudden death of the young Nabob (if made a proper use of) seems to point out a middle way, if things are not gone too far already to admit of any other than the divesting this family of the government altogether. Vide, the President's letter to Mr. Hastings of the sixteenth of last month, and to Major Caillaud of the twenty-sixth, on the same subject.

Respecting all matters relative to the Dutch and the Nabob, the Dutch and Us, the Tuncaws and obstructions raised by the Nabob on our collecting them, as also the late secret treaty between the Nabob, and the Morattas, &c. they will

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appear on the face of the correſpondence without exaggeration.

E—*Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Van Sittart *to Colonel* Caillaud. *Dated* 29 July 1760.

CErtain it is, that ſome new meaſures muſt be adopted, or both Bengal and Madras will be ruined for want of money. What I wrote you about formerly (in the month of April, I believe) ſeems to me to be the moſt promiſing plan. By that we extend our influence and our income without breaking through any former engagements, and it appears to me to be the moſt certain way of keeping the affairs of the province quiet, and in manageable order.

F—*Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Van Sittart *to Colonel* Caillaud. *Dated* 4 Auguſt 1760.

I Suppoſe the Nabob, when he anſwers the letters I wrote him, will, in conſequence of your advice, propoſe a meeting: and indeed, I think, it highly neceſſary. When ſuch a conference is reſolved on, I will let you know in time to be there, and, I think, we ſhould find the means of removing that want of confidence, which I ſee now every moment between the Nabob and our gentlemen. It is this miſtruſt that ſeems to me to be in great meaſure the cauſe of all his difficulties and ours. His people ſlight him, imagining, that with us they will be ſure to find protection; and, on the other hand, thoſe with whom the Company have to do, thoſe particularly upon whom we have aſſignments for money, make uſe of it as an opportunity of delaying their payments, depending on the Nabob's countenancing their backwardneſs.

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If a negociation with the prince should take place, I am so far from intending to encourage a revolution in these provinces, that I would have the confirmation of the present Nabob stipulated for the first article. It might, however, be upon condition of his making over to us countries to the value of about fifty lacks *per annum*. Burdwan and Kisnagur would nearly answer that sum, and lie extremely convenient for us; the Shazada, at the same time, should engage to furnish the Company monthly with twice as much as would defray the charges of the troops destined for his service, and to confer on the Company, in case of his success, such priviledges and advantages in all parts of India, as their several governors might request.

G—*Extract of a Letter from Colonel* Caillaud *to Mr.* Van Sittart, *to which Mr.* Amyatt *also subscribed.*

No date, but received 24 August 1760.

IT were to be wished, that confidence between us and the Nabob could be established; but give me leave to assure you, that will be no very easy task, until he changes his counsellors. My opinion in this is confirmed by Colonel Clive's judgment, who wanted such a change, and would have effected it had he staid; but I hope the same from your management..... The money matter still perplexes me more. The state of our finances at Bengal, you are before this acquainted with. The countries, you mention, are the best we could have for the sum wanted; but nothing will induce the Nabob to part with them, but his fear of our strength and power; and not much less force is requisite to keep him in awe, and to prevent enemies from within or without from

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disturbing the peace of the Soubaship, which if not perfectly maintained, of consequence, the revenues suffer..... The Nabob would not be a poorer man by giving us fifty lack *per annum*, with which he could have a body of forces that would do him service, and it does not cost him less than that sum for maintaining an useless rabble; but to convince him to this step, there lies the difficulty. The colonel's last letter to him was full of salutary instructions on this head; but he is of so mistrustful a nature, that already our power and influence, though meant for his good, gives him pain; and every thing we can propose, that seemingly tends to encrease it, gives him umbrage, and will make him unwillingly consent to this or any other step we can propose. Be assured of this, that he can only be frightened into compliance; and so you see, it is my opinion, that though the prince goes, we cannot send both men and money to Madras.

In my two last letters, I have spoke fully as to the affairs of this province, and given such reasons as I had for the appointment of Meer Sidon and Rajah Rajebullub; at least, what I have most strongly urged, and it seems to be your opinion, that no change should be made for the present. The Nabob's usage to me, in the course of this affair, hath piqued me sensibly, nor will I let it go unnoticed. I do not quarrel with the man for being of a different opinion with me, had he ingenuously told me so, for I left all to his choice, and only advised what I thought best; but he agreed by his letters to all I proposed, allowed it was the best could be done, and approved of all my measures, whilst, at the same time, he was acting diametrically opposite, without ever considering me, or the engagements I had entered into upon the strength of his promises.

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H—*Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Amyatt *to Mr.* Van Sittart *and Colonel* Caillaud. *Dated* Patna, 5 October 1760.

GENTLEMEN,

I Am favoured with your's of the twenty-fifth ultimo. I am very glad you have taken ſteps to ſupply us with money; we have laboured under great difficulties for want of it, and a ſmall ſupply to the Nabob's troops would have enabled Rajebullub to quit this place, who is very anxious and deſirous to get away, and without ſome money he cannot. He has run the riſque of his life theſe three days, and I expected an uproar in the city hourly. To day they are ſomewhat quiet, and Ramnarain has ſent for ſome of the chief commanders to expoſtulate with them, but without ſome money ſent him, he ſays, he cannot, nor will not undertake to ſatisfy them. I have talked to Ramnarain, all in my power, to take the command of them, as Rajebullub may go, and I cannot but ſay he has a great deal of reaſon on his ſide, they are ſuch a ſet of rabble, and he without money, beſides his own troops unpaid; they will not hear reaſon; ſome money muſt be given immediately, and where that is to come from he does not know. The Nabob has not wrote to them or Rajebullub, and Coſſim Aly Cawn to a very few, that they are outrageous. They ſay, the colonel and Rajebullub kept them together; one is gone, and ſent them no money, and the latter they expect to make their pay good, ſo that here is a fine ſpot of confuſion. Our army only prevents matters coming to extremities. I apprehend, when the prince hears all this, we ſhall have him move this way. Were all theſe troubleſome forces joined with him

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it would be nothing; but they within and the prince without is bad, though, I hope, as we are a little quiet to day, that Ramnarain will be able to work upon them; Rajebullub, in theſe matters, is a child to the other.

Ha—*Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Amyatt *to Mr.* Van Sittart *and Colonel* Caillaud. *Dated* Patna, 12 October 1760.

THE Nabob's Seapoys are daily deſerting to the prince; the remainder labour under great difficulties, and are very troubleſome for their pay.

I——*Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Haſtings *to the* Select Committee. *Dated* Moradbaug, 18 July 1760.

MY laſt gave you the melancholy news of the Chuta Nabob's death. It is proper, that I now acquaint you with the conſequences of that event here. No ſooner was the intelligence publiſhed, than the Seapoys, no longer intimidated by the authority of the Chuta Nabob, nor the preſence of the Engliſh forces, which had hitherto reſtrained them from giving ſcope to their reſentment againſt the Nabob, immediately concurred to take the advantage, which his grief, and the conſternation cauſed by ſo ſudden and fatal a ſtroke afforded them to compel him to pay their long arrears. They accordingly encompaſſed his palace on the fourteenth, in a clamorous manner, but proceeded no further than to inſult the treaſurer and other muttaſuddies, whom they pulled out of their palanquins, and treated with other indignities. The ſame diſorders continued the next day. On

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On the ſixteenth, they aſſembled in a large body, and ſtopped up the doors of the palace, ſuffering none to enter, or come out of it. Numbers mounted on every wall, not excepting the places held the moſt ſacred, and loaded the Nabob with the moſt opprobrious language, threatening him with death if their demands were not complied with. Such of his courtiers or attendants, as made their appearance, were aſſaulted by fragments broke off from the walls, by which ſeveral perſons of diſtinction were wounded. This ſcene laſted two days, and ſeemed to portend the certain deſtruction of the Nabob, when Coſſein Aly Cawn, the Nabob's ſon-in-law, by his interpoſition, put a ſtop to the perſecution, and brought on an accommodation. The Nabob has promiſed to pay the full arrears from the ſixth ſun, and two half months of the preſent year, as ſoon as it ſhall appear from the accounts what is due to them. For this payment, Coſſein Aly Cawn became ſecurity, and paid them immediately three lacks of rupees from his own treaſury. This ſatisfied the Seapoys, who inſtantly retired to their own habitations. Though the ſtorm is now blown over, yet ſhould it return again (which is to be apprehended from the ſmall proſpect there at preſent appears, that the Nabob will be able to collect ſo large a ſum as he has engaged to diſcharge) I much fear the conſequences will prove fatal to the Nabob, as well from the unrulineſs and diſaffection of the multitude, as from the machinations of his numerous enemies, with whom it will be no difficulty to make theſe the inſtrument of his ruin.

Aſſid Jemma Cawn, the Rajah of Beerboom, is aſſembling forces, and, though no open hoſtilities have been committed by him, it is no longer doubted, but his deſign is to revolt from the preſent government.

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K—*Tranſlation of a Letter from the* Nabob *to Major* Caillaud.

FOrmerly the command of the forces, the government of the country, the regulating of the army, and raiſing of troops, were the office of the Nabob Naſir-ool-moolk deceaſed. At this time, excepting my beloved ſon Meer Mahomed Coſſein Cawn Bahadre, there is none of my ſons or brethren equal to that truſt, and I now have received greater proofs than ever of his merit. For this reaſon, I have judged my ſon aforeſaid, worthy of and proper for the direction of all military operations and affairs of the adminiſtration, in the ſame manner with the Nabob Naſir-ool-moolk deceaſed. I doubt not, that you have the ſame opinion of the qualities and capacity of my ſon aforeſaid; and the friendſhip which you entertain for him is free from deceit and deſign. From the entire dependance, which he places upon your eſtabliſhed acquaintance and friendſhip, he hopes that you will aſſiſt him on this occaſion, by exerting your influence ſo effectually in his behalf, that Mahrajah Ramnarain Bahadre may be entirely pleaſed with my ſaid ſon, and maintain a friendly intercourſe with him; that when required he may afford the ſaid Mahrajah his aſſiſtance and ſupport, as the late Nabob Naſar-ool-moolk did. By this our friendſhip will be daily augmented, the affairs of the government will proſper, and you will do me great pleaſure.

L——*Tranſlation of a Letter from the* Nabob *to Mr.* Holwell. *Received* 10 July 1760:

THE letter you wrote me concerning Meer Mahomed Coſſein Aly Cawn, I have received. You acquaint me, that he is a noble, good, and brave

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brave man. Mr. Haſtings alſo has wrote me to the ſame purpoſe, and has deſired me, to let him ſucceed my ſon. This rejoiced me much, becauſe I was ſenſible he is highly deſerving of my favour and friendſhip. I have no friends dearer to me than himſelf and family, and ſhould be very glad if it was in my power to give it him; but the colonel has wrote me a letter, a copy whereof I have incloſed for your peruſal, and you will then be able to judge, what motive has induced me to prefer the Chuta Nabob's ſon.

M——*Extract of a Letter from the* Select Committee *at* Calcutta *to the Preſident and Council of Fort* St. George. *Dated* 28 July 1760.

WE have received your favours of the twelfth of June, and ſeventh of July, and are very ſorry to find, there is a proſpect of your being under the neceſſity of raiſing the blockade of Pondicherry. We flatter ourſelves, however, that affairs will take a more favourable turn, and that when the expected ſuccours arrive, you will be fully enabled to carry into execution your moſt ſanguine expectations. We moſt ardently wiſh it were in our power to aſſiſt you on this important occaſion with men and money, but ſuch is our ſituation, that notwithſtanding our unwearied endeavours, we are not able to effect either. The Shahzada with his forces had croſſed the river Soane, which afforded a proſpect of the Patna province being reſtored to peace, for a few months at leaſt; but the death of the young Nabob, which happened by a flaſh of lightning on the eighth of July, has encouraged the Shahzada to return within a few coſe of the city of Patna. Major Caillaud, with our troops and thoſe of the Nabob, under

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under his command, by our lateſt advices, was in that city, ſo that an action may very probably enſue.

Every method has been tried for raiſing a ſum of money, as well for the ſupplying your ſettlement, as providing an inveſtment here for the Company. The troubles, which have this ſeaſon continued ſo late in the country, have ſo much impeded the collection of our Tuncaws, that for a conſiderable time paſt we have had little more money in our treaſury than ſufficient to defray the current expences of the ſettlement. This being the real ſituation of our affairs, we perſuade ourſelves you will be convinced that your not receiving the ſupplies you may have expected from us is not owing to any neglect in us, as we can, on the contrary, aſſure you we ſhould, upon all occaſions, moſt chearfully contribute every thing in our power for the good of the ſervice in general.

N—— *Extract of a Conſultation of the 7th of* Auguſt 1760. *Preſent Meſ.* Van Sittart, Sumner, Holwell, M'Gwire, Batſon, Verelſt, Smyth, *and* Smith.

IN order to determine upon the expediency of complying with the application of the Committee of Aurungs, for a ſufficient advance of money to compleat the inveſtment intended this year, the board think it neceſſary to inquire into the preſent ſtate of the treaſury, and the farther ſupplies that we have to depend on, ſuppoſing none to come from Europe, by the ſhips of this ſeaſon, and to ſet againſt them, firſt, the indiſpenſible demands for the current charges of the preſidency, as the pay of the troops, the marine charges, the fortifications and repairs, &c.

Accordingly,

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Accordingly, the following calculation is now framed, to include a whole year, commencing the firſt of Auguſt 1760, and ending the thirty-firſt of July 1761.

	Rupees.
Remaining this day in the treaſury	1,00,000
To be received from the Nabob the full amount of his debt, about	25,00,000
To be received from the company's lands —— —	8,00,000
Land and Sea cuſtoms	1,50,000
In ſales in the import warehouſe, and bills of exchange on Europe	2,00,000
Total about	37,50,000

N. B. The amount of this calculation is 37,50,000 rupees, to which we may add 12 lacks for the yearly amount of the lack of rupees *per* month, which the Nabob has ſtipulated to pay for the field expences of our troops. The whole ſum will be 49,50,000; of which it is to be obſerved, that 37 lacks were to be paid by the Nabob, and therefore could by no means be depended on. The remainder is only 12,50,000 rupees, a ſum very inſufficient for defraying even the current expences of the ſettlement.

Of which it may be computed, that eighteen lacks of rupees will be required for the indiſpenſible charges of the troops, fortifications, &c. for twelve months, from the firſt of Auguſt 1760, to the thirty-firſt of July 1761. And the preſident repreſents to the board, that the want of money upon the coaſt began to be very preſſing before he left it, ſo that there ſeems to be an abſolute and immediate neceſſity for ſending at leaſt ten lacks to Madras, otherwiſe the vaſt ſums already diſburſed there, and all the advantages thereby acquired

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quired over the enemy will be loſt, at a criſis too, when there is great probability of purſuing the blow with ſucceſs to the utmoſt accompliſhment of our wiſhes, by the reduction of Pondicherry.

Theſe ten lacks for Madras muſt therefore be made up out of the firſt monies that can be got together, whether by loan, or from the Nabob's Tuncaws and aſſignments. There will yet remain ten lacks out of the before going computation, which will ſerve to begin upon an inveſtment next year, if no other urgent occaſion ſhould demand a ſupply from it.

But for the preſent year it is abſolutely impoſſible, unleſs our honourable maſters ſhould, contrary to their laſt mentioned intentions, ſend us a ſupply in the expected ſhips.

Upon the whole, it is the unanimous opinion of the board, that it will be moſt for the Company's intereſt, in this caſe of neceſſity, to ſtop any further advances on account of this year's inveſtment:

O——*Copy of a Letter from Mr.* Sykes *to Mr.* Van Sittart. *Dated* Coſſimbazar, 16 September 1760.

I Now incloſe you two letters from the Nabob, on peruſing which you will find, I have not been ſucceſsful in my application to him for the Fougedarry of Chittagong and Sillett. He has acquainted me juſt now with the reſult of his conſultation yeſterday with his miniſters, which is a downright refuſal, alledging, that theſe two provinces he has aſſigned for the maintenance of two of his ſons, and Moniloll acts as their Dewan. I informed him, that you did not mean that our having theſe two countries ſhould be any loſs to him in his revenues, as we would pay the ſame as the

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the preſent poſſeſſor does; yet he ſeems to think, that if we have once a factory at Chittagong, his people will be greatly controuled in the tranſactions in thoſe parts.

P——*Copy of the Proceedings at a* Committee. *Preſent Meſ.* Van Sittart, Caillaud, Sumner, Holwell, *and* M'Guire. 11 Sept. 1760.

THE colonel informs the Committee, that he left Patna the thirty-firſt of laſt month, at which time the prince was at Dowdnagore on this ſide the Soane; that all the reports of his croſſing it were over, and that Monſieur Laws with Mawdarah Dowla were preparing to repaſs the river, and join him. It was ſaid, their next motion would be towards Comgar Cawn, with whom the operations of the next campaign were to be ſettled.

Before we reſolve upon a plan of future operations, we will attempt a deſcription of the ſtate the Company's affairs are now in, and this not to be confined to Bengal, but with regard alſo to the exigencies of the other ſettlements, who are told to depend on this for ſupplies of money. Our influence encreaſing from time to time, ſince the revolution brought about by Colonel Clive, ſo have we been obliged to encreaſe our force to ſupport that influence. We have now more than a thouſand Europeans and five thouſand Seapoys, which with the contingent expences of an army, is far more than the revenues allotted for their maintenance. This deficiency was not ſo much attended to whilſt the immenſe ſums ſtipulated by the laſt treaty were coming in, but theſe reſources being now quite exhauſted, and no ſupplies of money coming

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coming from Europe, it becomes immediately neceſſary to ſecure to the Company ſuch an income as will bear them clear of charges, and bring in beſides a ſupply for the emergencies of their other ſettlements, and for providing cargoes for loading home their ſhips.

The firſt queſtion then that naturally occurs is this, Whether that great force is wanted?

That a leſs force would ſecure the ſettlement of Fort William, with its former bounds, againſt any thing that is now in the country, is not to be doubted, but it is as certain, that nothing but that influence and weight, which we maintain by the largeneſs of our force, can poſſibly prevent the well-known deſigns of the two principal European powers, who have long ſhared with us the benefits of the trade of this country; and to this we may add, that the nearer we approach to a peace in Europe, the nearer we are to our danger here.

Theſe conſiderations, having their due weight, we believe few will diſpute the neceſſity of keeping up our preſent force, perhaps augmenting it. This granted, it follows, that means muſt be found within ourſelves of ſupporting the expence, and theſe means can be no other than a proportionable ſhare of the revenues of the country.

By the treaty made with the preſent Nabob, he is obliged, as often as it may be requiſite for our troops to take the field, to furniſh a lack of rupees a month for their expence; but the uncertainty of this payment has been too long experienced to be any more depended on, nor indeed is it by any means ſufficient to anſwer the purpoſe, ſuppoſing the payment regularly made. It muſt therefore be propoſed to the Nabob, to aſſign to the Company a much larger income, and to aſſign it in ſuch a full and ample manner, by giving to the Company the ſole right of ſuch diſtricts as lie moſt convenient

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convenient for our management, that we may no longer be ſubject to the inconveniencies we experienced from the late Tuncaws, being orders only on a certain part of the revenues. From the experienced weakneſs and unſteadineſs of the Nabob himſelf, and the nature of thoſe dependents who now rule him, and who by ſelf-intereſted views muſt naturally oppoſe every increaſe of our power, as their own will of courſe be proportionably leſſened, it is to be ſuppoſed, that ſuch a propoſal would meet with all the difficulties that could poſſibly be thrown in our way. Notwithſtanding theſe difficulties we will ſuppoſe, that we ſhould have weight enough to over-rule his counſellors, and to obtain his conſent, we then juſt keep our preſent footing. We have a fund for paying our troops, and thoſe troops muſt be employed in the ſervice of the Nabob, and this ſervice, the ſame as for two years paſt, in oppoſing the Shahzada, whoſe deſigns on theſe provinces, it is almoſt certain will ſtill be purſued.

From the experience of theſe two years, it is pretty clear, that our troops, though victorious in the field, yet cannot by their ſucceſs put an end to the troubles. The ſame cauſe which hath prevented it before ſtill exiſts. The nature of thoſe people in alliance with whom we are to act, who will not purſue the advantages we gain, and we not having the means in our power, for want of a body of cavalry under our command. Thus the war may be protracted for years to come, and every year the Nabob's circumſtances are worſe and worſe, through an increaſe of expence and loſs of revenues, not only by the devaſtations which the enemy may make, but by the continual defection of ſome of his own rajahs and dependents. Many, in the courſe of the two laſt years, have declared themſelves; and that others are ripe for doing the ſame

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ſame is not to be doubted, particularly the Rajah of Beerboom, in a letter the governor lately received from him, has ſpoke his ſentiments very freely. The province of Patna is already ſo much reduced, by the two campaigns, as to be incapable of affording ſubſiſtance to the prince any longer, who muſt always find on the ſpot the means of carrying on the war, having no reſources within himſelf, and who conſequently muſt through neceſſity attempt next year to penetrate farther into Bengal; and in this he will no doubt be encouraged by the ſucceſs, which attended his laſt year's incurſion as far as Burdwan.

It is therefore next to be conſidered, whether it is beſt for the intereſt of the Nabob, to purſue the preſent meaſures, by continuing to oppoſe the Shahzada, or to ſupport him in his pretenſions to the crown of Delly? The two parties ſtill ſubſiſt, between whom the throne is diſputed, or rather who ſhall give a king to that throne. One of thoſe parties has repeatedly invited the Shahzada to him, and it is well known what offers he has made both to the Nabob and us for our aſſiſtance. The ſame reaſons may be ſuppoſed yet to have their weight with him, while the diſpute remains undecided; and is it not probable, that ſuch an aſſiſtance given to the prince, and thrown into Abdalla's ſcale, would inſure the ſucceſs of the enterprize? The immediate conſequence of this to Bengal would be clearing the country of an enemy, by removing the cauſe whence all the late troubles and confuſion have ariſen; and if we with reaſon flatter ourſelves we ſhould ſucceed, what advantages may not the Company expect?

Suppoſing this change of meaſures does not appear to the Nabob in the light we have repreſented, it is to be conſidered, whether the exigencies of the Company's affairs before deſcribed do not require

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require our forming ſuch connections independently of him, as may over-rule the advice and ſway of his creatures and miniſters.

The unfortunate death of the young Nabob having created a number of ſeparate intereſts, which it is impoſſible to conciliate to the ſatisfaction of all, and thereby given the faireſt opportunity to any other European power to gain a party to ſupport them in their deſigns of eſtabliſhing an influence here, is an inducement to make us follow ſuch a ſyſtem as will put this the moſt out of their power.

The ſhare of influence we now enjoy in theſe provinces, however great in appearance, does not carry with it thoſe real advantages and weighty effects which are neceſſary not to leave that power in danger of being diſputed, and of failing us at a time when we moſt want it, and nothing is more probable than that that period will happen on a peace. To prevent the evil conſequences of this, there ſeems now to offer ſuch an opportunity of ſecuring to ourſelves all that we could wiſh in this reſpect, as likely may never happen again; an opportunity that will give us both power and right.

Another principal motive, that urges us to think of changing our ſyſtem, is the want of money; a want that is not confined to ourſelves alone, but upon which greatly depend the operations on the coaſt. The reduction of Pondicherry, and the proviſion of an inveſtment for loading home the next year's ſhips at all the three preſidencies.

It is hardly to be doubted, but that the Shahzada would be willing to enter into a negotiation with us independent of the Nabob, but ſuch a meaſure would neither be for the intereſt nor the honour of our nation. Our views in adopting the ſyſtem ſhould be directed rather to ſtrengthen than weaken or overthrow the preſent Subah. All we deſire is, to ſee the power removed out of the

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hands of that ſort of men, who now rule and direct the affairs of the Nabob, and through whoſe miſmanagements and frauds, the country and his adminiſtration ſuffer ſo conſiderably, and to have ſuch a ſhare of power inveſted in the Company as will enable them to prevent the bad conſequences of ſo many contending intereſts; will effectually put a ſtop to that diſſipation of revenues which hath reduced the Nabob to his preſent diſtreſſed condition, which revenue, if properly applied, would leave him nor us any thing to fear from the deſigns of any enemy, and effectually ſecure to us ſuch a fund as would anſwer all our preſent preſſing exigencies, and in time prove an increaſe of honour and advantage to the nation and the Company.

Q—*The Preſident lays before the* Committee, *the following Letter which he lately received from the Rajah of* Burboom.

" THanks be given to the Almighty at this " happy time; I have received your moſt " kind letter, acquainting me of your appoint- " ment to the adminiſtration of the affairs of the " Company, and your ſafe arrival in Calcutta. " It has filled my heart with a joy too great for ex- " preſſion, and I have offered up my praiſes to " GOD for it. May the Almighty beſtow on " you a daily encreaſe of honour, and incline you " to favour your well-wiſher. This is the ſtate " of my affairs. By the countenance and care of " you, gentlemen, my Zemindaree had begun to " put on a flouriſhing appearance; but lately, " ſince I have been deprived of that advantage, " the magiſtrate of the country, who has rebelled " againſt his ſovereign, afflicts every man of worth " and honour with inſults and indignities, from " which

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"which the strictest obedience is no security. By "the commands of the Lord of the universe, I "have put myself in readiness. You are a wise "and considerate man. The principles of your "religion ordain, that every man should be put "in possession of his right; and by your cu-"stoms too, the king is entitled to obedience. "These considerations, added to the long friend-"ship I have had for your country, persuade me "that you will engage in no cause that shall op-"pose that of Shah Aulum. Since your inclina-"tions and mine are always the same, I hope "from the countenance of your favour to be al-"ways made happy by the news of your welfare, "and that you will take care of me."

R— *Extract of the Proceedings at a* Committee, *the* 15*th* Sept. 1760. *Present, Mes.* Van Sittart, Caillaud, Sumner, Holwell, *and* M'Gwire.

THE great objects of our present deliberations are: First, The securing a fund of money for the present and future exigencies of this settlement, as well as the other two presidencies, no money being expected from Europe, And secondly, The putting an end to the disturbances fomented and kept up by the Shahzada in several parts of these provinces, that the whole may be united under the Nabob, and he put under the more immediate influence of the Company, whose force is his chief support and dependence, by this means enabling us to join a large body of country troops to our own to oppose any attempts of European or country powers.

The question to be considered is, Whether we can best arrive at these ends by following the pre-

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ſent ſyſtem of oppoſing the Shahzada, or by propoſing to him an alliance with the Engliſh, and the aſſiſtance of part of our forces to proceed with him to Delly, and ſupport him in his pretenſions to the throne.

(The difficulties on both ſides having been conſidered)

Reſolved therefore unanimouſly, That the entering into an alliance with the Shahzada is a neceſſary and expedient meaſure. The preſident is accordingly deſired to preſs Coſſein Aly Cawn on the ſubject of our expences, and our great diſtreſs for money, ſo as to draw from him ſome propoſal of means for removing thoſe difficulties, by which poſſibly we may be able to form a judgment, whether he might not be brought to join in this negotiation, and in procuring the Nabob's conſent.

S— *Extract of the Proceedings of a* Committee *of the 16th of* Sept. 1760. *Preſent, Meſ.* Van Sittart, Caillaud, Sumner, Holwell, *and* M'Gwire.

THE preſident acquaints the Committee, that in a long converſation he had laſt night with Coſſein Aly Cawn, he had an opportunity of making ſome progreſs towards the diſcoveries requiſite for carrying on the negociation propoſed yeſterday; and that, without letting him know any thing of our deſign, he had led him to make ſuch declarations of his deſire to have the rule over the Nabob, and the general management of the affairs of the province, as amount almoſt to a proof of his readineſs to act the part intended for him.

After

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After telling him much of our regard, and of our opinion of him, as the fitteſt perſon for conducting the great affairs of the Bengal government, I began to make him ſtrong repreſentations on the ſubject of the Company's expences; that the immediate charges of the army far exceeded the ſum aſſigned for that purpoſe, which ſum alſo was not regularly paid, there being now three or four months arrears; that beſides this he could not but be ſenſible how much the Company gave up in the other parts, for the ſake of providing for the ſecurity of Bengal, withdrawing their forces from the Deccan and Madras, and ſending continually freſh ſupplies from Europe. I repreſented to him farther, the great loſs the Company had ſuffered by the long continuance of the preſent war with the Shahzada, and how much it was to be wiſhed, for the general benefit, that an end could be put to it, ſo as to enable the Nabob to reduce his expences, and collect his full revenues: of which a great part is now loſt by the ravages of the enemy, particularly the whole produce of the Patna province.

In anſwer to this, Coſſein Aly Cawn replied, that he has it not at preſent in his power to provide in a proper manner for the ſupply of the Company; that if we could undertake to give him the general management of the country, by taking it out of the hands of thoſe who are now entruſted with it by the Nabob, he would then make ſuch aſſignments, in favour of the Company, as ſhould be perfectly to our ſatisfaction. At the ſame time he inſinuated, that this would undoubtedly meet with oppoſition at Moorſhedabad, and at firſt prove very diſagreeable to the Nabob himſelf; for which reaſon, it would be quite neceſſary to have a force at hand to ſupport him. By which being enabled to over rule the preſent evil

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counſellors of the Nabob, he could anſwer for bringing the Nabob himſelf into ſuch terms as ſhould be agreed on here.

T——*Copy of the Treaty concluded between Mr.* Van Sittart, *and the Gentlemen of the* Select Committee, *and the* Nabob Meer Mahomed Coſſim Cawn.

I. THE Nabob Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn ſhall continue in poſſeſſion of his dignities, and all affairs be tranſacted in his name, and a ſuitable income ſhall be allowed for his expences.

II. The Neabut of the Soubadaree of Bengal, Azimabad, and Oriſſa, &c. ſhall be conferred by his excellency the Nabob on Meer Mahomed Coſſim Cawn. He ſhall be inveſted with the adminiſtration of all the affairs of the provinces, and after his Excellency he ſhall ſucceed to the government.

III. Betwixt us and Meer Mahomed Coſſim Cawn, a firm friendſhip and union is eſtabliſhed. His enemies are our enemies, and his friends are our friends.

IV. The Europeans and the Seapoys of the Engliſh army ſhall be ready to aſſiſt the Nabob Meer Mahomed Coſſim Cawn in the management of all affairs, and in all affairs dependent on him they ſhall exert themſelves to the utmoſt of their abilities.

V. For all charges of the Company, and of the ſaid army, and proviſions for the field, &c. the lands of Burdwan, Midnapoor and Chittagong ſhall be aſſigned, and Sunnuds for that purpoſe ſhall be written and granted. The Company is to ſtand to all loſſes, and receive all the profits

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profits of these three countries; and we will demand no more than the three assignments aforesaid.

VI. One half of the Chunam produced at Sillet for three years shall be purchased by the Gomastahs of the Company, from the people of the government, at the customary rate of that place. The tenants and inhabitants of that place shall receive no injury.

VII. The ballance of the former Tuncaws shall be paid according to the Kistbundee agreed upon with the Royroyan. The jewels which have been pledged shall be received back again.

VIII. We will not allow the tenants of the Sircar to settle in the lands of the English Company, neither shall the tenants of the Company be allowed to settle in the lands of the Sircar.

IX. We will give no protection to the dependents of the Sircar, in the lands or the factories of the Company, neither shall any protection be given to the dependents of the Company in the lands of the Sircar, and whoever shall fly to either party for refuge shall be given up.

X. The measures for war or peace with the Shahzada, and raising supplies of money, and the concluding both these points, shall be weighed in the scale of reason, and whatever is judged expedient shall be put in execution; and it shall be so contrived, by our joint counsels, that he be removed from this country, nor suffered to get any footing in it. Whether there be peace with the Shahzada or not, our agreement with Meer Mahomed Coffim Cawn, we will, by the grace of GOD, inviolably observe, as long as the English Company's factories continue in this country. Dated the 17th day of the month of Suffur, in the year 1174 of the Hegyra.

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V——*Copy of the* Select Committee's *Inſtructions to Mr.* Van Sittart *and Colonel* Caillaud.

AS ſome days have already elapſed ſince the Preſident, at the deſire of the Committee, wrote to Mr. Amyatt, of the intended negotiation with the Shahzada, and as one copy of Roydoolub's letter to the Prince has been forwarded by his own people, we may expect, that within fifteen or twenty days from this time, ſomething of it will tranſpire, and the report ſpread to Moorſhedabad. It is not to be doubted, but that the Nabob will be extremely alarmed at the firſt news of it, and that thoſe, who now rule him, will uſe their influence to encreaſe his fears and ſuſpicions, and to make him as averſe as poſſible to acquieſcing in the meaſures we propoſe to adopt, and to which Coſſim Aly Cawn has acceded. It will be neceſſary, to have perſons commiſſioned with full powers from hence, and that they be ſuch as will have weight enough on the one part, to keep Coſſim Aly Cawn firm to the agreements he has entered into; and on the other, to ſupport him ſo ſtrongly, as to enable him to over-rule the Nabob, and all his preſent adviſers.

This entire confidence we place in you, empowering you to act, according to your own diſcretion, in all circumſtances that may occur, and the better to enable you to accompliſh our intentions, and prevent any diſturbance, we have thought proper to make a detachment of two compleat companies of military, a company of artillery with four pieces of cannon, and Captain Tabbay's battalion of Seapoys, who are to act under your orders. This detachment is repreſented to the Nabob as deſigned to reinforce the army

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army at Patna, but it is not our intention, that they ſhall proceed farther than Coſſimbazar, unleſs the approach of the Burboom, or other diſaffected Rajahs, or Jemmadars, ſhould make it neceſſary to ſend them out to oppoſe them.

If the affairs of Patna ſhould not abſolutely require the Colonel's immediate proceeding there, we would have him remain at Moorſhedabad till this affair ſhall be ſettled there, and the government put under the regulation propoſed. In which caſe you will pleaſe to forward to Mr. Amyatt the general inſtructions of the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth, directed to him and the Colonel, with orders to Captain Knox to co-operate with the chief of Patna, in the execution of the ſaid inſtructions. When the Colonel proceeds to Patna, Major Yorke will remain with the command of the detachment, and will follow the orders of the governor for his further proceedings.

You will be continually adviſed of the news we may receive, and of any alteration that may happen here, in order that you may take the neceſſary meaſures for ſending back the detachment, in caſe any danger from abroad ſhould threaten the ſettlement.

W——*Copy of a Letter from Mr.* Van Sittart *to the* Select Committee.

Dated Coſſimbazar, 15 Oct. 1760.

I Came here by eaſy ſtages, in order to give time for Coſſim Aly Cawn, as well as the detachment, to arrive before me.

Yeſterday evening I reached this place, and this morning the Nabob did me the honour of a viſit. After the firſt ceremonies, he deſired a private converſation, which he opened by repreſenting the dangerous ſituation of affairs at Patna, and deſiring

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desiring the Colonel might be sent back with all possible expedition. This gave me the opportunity of picturing to him the general weak condition of his government, occasioned not so much by the want of means in the country, as by the abuse and evil administration of those to whom he had entrusted the management; that the Colonel's going to Patna, without a large supply of money, would be of no use; and that it is not by temporary remittances of forty or fifty thousand rupees that the present confusion can be remedied, or his affairs carried on in future, but by some general regulation, which may give more confidence to his officers and troops. I described every thing in the worst light I could, in hopes that, by magnifying his difficulties, I might bring him more easily to consent to those measures which we have resolved on. This seemed to operate in the manner I could wish. He said more than once, that he would gladly follow any advice I should propose to him, desired that I would consider the matter fully between this and to-morrow evening, and promised on his part to do the same, and that he would then meet me at Moradbaug, and come to such determination as I shall approve.

Upon the whole, I have great hopes I shall be able to obtain the proposed advantages for the Company. Obtain them, indeed, I will at all events; but I hope, and much wish, to get it done without exerting any force.

P. S. Inclosed is a letter from Mr. Amyatt. Troubles must be expected at Patna, until means are found of paying some money to the Nabob's troops. The Nabob's not writing himself, after repeatedly pressing us to do it was very extraordinary; however, I am not sorry at this time to have so striking an instance to urge of the weakness and unsteadiness of his present government.

Wa—*The*

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W a— *The following is an Extract of Mr.* Amyatt's *Letter here mentioned.*

Patna, 4 Oct. 1760.

Gentlemen,

" THE Nabob has not wrote to Rajebul-
" lub, and by what Mr. Sykes writes
" me, he will not till he has ſeen Colonel Cail-
" laud; but, notwithſtanding this, Rajebullub
" is very willing and glad to go to Moorſheda-
" bad, and wanted to ſet out immediately. The
" army, hearing this, ſurrounded his houſe, abu-
" ſed and uſed him ill, ſeized upon his boats, and
" for theſe three days paſt there has been ſuch a
" ſcene of confuſion I cannot expreſs it; the Sea-
" poys are no ways under their commander, and
" do almoſt what they pleaſe. And this ſcene is
" likely to continue, and probably may end in
" Rajebullub's being cut off, or ſome diſaſter
" upon the city. Nothing but the fear of our
" army prevents it; for a trifle will ſtir them up
" to raſhneſs; however, they have obliged him
" to ſwear he will not go, till money or Coſſim
" Aly Cawn comes; indeed, they will not let him
" go, and uſe him moſt exceſſively ill."

X— *Copy of a Letter from Mr.* Van Sittart *and Colonel* Caillaud *to the* Select Committee.

Dated Moradbaug, 21 Oct. 1760.

Gentlemen,

THE governor wrote you yeſterday of the affairs here being ſettled to the Company's advantage. We ſhall now have the honour to acquaint you with the ſteps by which we advanced to this point of ſucceſs. The

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The Nabob's viſit to the Governor at Coſſimbazar the fifteenth of the month, as well as that we paid him the next day in return, paſſed only in general converſation. The eighteenth, he came here to talk upon buſineſs. In order to give him a clear and full view of the bad management of his miniſters, by which his own affairs as well as the Company's are reduced to ſo dangerous a ſtate, and the inhabitants in general to want and miſery, we had prepared three letters, which after a ſhort and friendly introduction, the Governor delivered to him, and of which tranſlations are hereunto annexed under No. I, II, and III.

The Nabob ſeemed much affected by the peruſal of the letters, but endeavoured more to put an end to the conference, than to propoſe a remedy to the evils. We however prevailed on him to ſend for his dinner to Moradbaug, and in a manner inſiſted on his coming to ſome determination for the immediate reform of his government. At length, he confeſſed himſelf thro' age and grief incapable alone of ſtruggling againſt ſo many difficulties, and deſired he might have time to conſult with his friends. We told him, the men, with whom he had lately adviſed, were not his friends, but his greateſt enemies; that his returning again, in the midſt of them, would only be the means of augmenting his difficulties; that he had much better take the aſſiſtance of one from among his relations, on whoſe attachment and fidelity he might more ſafely rely. He named five or ſix, and among them Coſſim Aly Cawn; we aſked him, which of that number was moſt fit to aſſiſt him in his preſent exigencies? He replied, without any heſitation, that Coſſim Aly Cawn was the moſt proper. Nevertheleſs it was with the utmoſt difficulty we could prevail on him

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him to ſend for him, and ſo very late, that before Coſſim Aly Cawn could arrive, the old Nabob was ſo extremely fatigued, and in ſuch a ſtate of anxiety, that we could not refuſe his return home to take his reſt. We were convinced, indeed, that it would be to no purpoſe to keep him; for ſuch was the jealouſy he diſcovered with regard to Coſſim Aly Cawn, that we ſaw he never would conſent, without ſome ſort of force, to give the other the means of reſtoring order to his affairs. An hour or two after the Nabob's departure, Coſſim Aly Cawn arrived, and ſeemed to be extremely apprehenſive, that the Nabob, inſtead of truſting him with the management of his affairs, would endeavour, by ſome means or other, to get rid of him. We agreed therefore in opinion with him, that he ſhould not go to the Nabob's houſe, until meaſures were taken for his ſecurity. We reſolved, however, to give the Nabob the next day (the nineteenth) to reflect upon the letters beforementioned, in hopes, that he would propoſe ſome means of regulation. We heard nothing from him all day, but found by our intelligence, that he had been in council with his old adviſers, Keeniran, Moonilaul and Checon, whoſe advice, we were ſure, would be contrary to the welfare of the country in general, and that of the Company in particular. We determined, therefore, to act immediately upon the Nabob's fears. There could not be a better opportunity than the night of the nineteenth afforded, it being the concluſion of the Gentoo feaſt, when all the principal people of that caſt would be pretty well fatigued with their ceremonies. We determined, therefore, that Colonel Caillaud with the two companies of Military and ſix companies of Seapoys ſhould croſs the river, between three and four in the morning, and having

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ving joined Coſſim Aly Cawn and his people, march to the Nabob's palace, and ſurround it juſt at day-break, being extremely deſirous to prevent any diſturbance, or bloodſhed. The Governor wrote a letter to the Nabob, (the tranſlation of which is annexed, No. IV.) and delivered it to the Colonel to ſend it to him, at ſuch time, as he ſhould think moſt expedient. Meaſures were at the ſame time taken, for ſeizing the perſons of Keeniram, Moonilaul, and Checon, our intention being only to remove thoſe three unworthy miniſters, and place Coſſim Aly Cawn in the full management of all the affairs, in quality of deputy and ſucceſſor to the Nabob. The Governor remained at Moradbaug, in readineſs to pay a viſit of congratulation to the Durbar, as ſoon as the point ſhould be ſettled.

The neceſſary preparations being accordingly made, with all the care and ſecrecy imaginable, the Colonel embarked with the troops, joined Coſſim Aly Cawn, without the leaſt alarm, and marched into the court-yard of the palace, juſt at the proper inſtant. The gates of the inner court being ſhut, the Colonel formed his men without, and ſent the Governor's letter to the Nabob, who was at firſt in a great rage, and long threatened he would make what reſiſtance he could, and take his fate. The Colonel forbore all hoſtilities, and ſeveral meſſages paſſed by the means of Mr. Haſtings and Mr. Luſhington, whoſe ſervices on this occaſion deſerve notice. The affair remained in this doubtful ſtate about two hours, when the Nabob finding his perſiſting was to no purpoſe, ſent a meſſage to Coſſim Aly Cawn, informing him, he was ready to ſend him the ſeals, and all the enſigns of dignity, and to order the Nabit to be ſtuck up in his name, provided he would agree, to take the whole charge of the govern-

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government upon him, to diſcharge all the arrears due to the troops, to pay the uſual revenues to the king, to ſave his life and honour, and to give him an allowance ſufficient for his maintenance. All theſe conditions being agreed to, Coſſim Aly Cawn was proclaimed, and the old Nabob came out to the Colonel, declaring, that he depended on him for his life; and the troops then took poſſeſſion of all the gates, and notice was ſent to the Governor, who came immediately, and the old Nabob met him in the gate-way, aſking if his perſon was ſafe, which ſeemed now to be all his concern. The Governor told him, not only his perſon was ſafe, but his government too if he pleaſed, of which it never was intended to deprive him. The Nabob anſwered, that he had no more buſineſs at the city, that he ſhould be in continual danger from Coſſim Aly Cawn, and that if he was permitted to go and live at Calcutta, he ſhould be extremely happy and contented. Though we could not help lamenting his ſudden fall, we were not ſorry for this propoſal, as the affairs will doubtleſs be better managed without him, and the advantages ſtipulated for the Company be obtained without the leaſt difficulty or delay. Coſſim Aly Cawn was accordingly ſeated on the throne, and we paid him our congratulations in the uſual form. All the Jemmaders, merchants and others, reſiding in the city, came immediately, and made their acknowledgments to the new Subah, and in the evening every thing was as perfectly quiet as if there had been no change. The people in general ſeem much pleaſed with this revolution, and we are particularly happy in its having been brought about, without the leaſt diſturbance in the town, or a drop of blood ſpilt.

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The advantages to the Company are great indeed. The Phirmauns for the countries of Burdwan, Midnapoor, and Chittagong, we ſhall receive immediately, as well as that for half of the Chunam produced at Sillet. A very ſevere order has already been iſſued, forbidding all the ſhroffs and merchants to refuſe the Calcutta Siccas, or to aſk any Batta on them. A ſupply of money will be ſent with the Colonel for the payment of the troops at Patna, and we have even ſome hopes of obtaining a preſent of three or four lacks beſides, to ſend down to Calcutta to help out the Company in their preſent occaſions there, and at Madraſs. The former ballance is to be paid monthly to the old Nabob's Kiſtbundy.

We are the more pleaſed with this fortunate event at this time, when the approach of peace in Europe gives us reaſon to fear the other European nations will find leiſure to diſturb us here. We ſhall have now ſtrong reſources within ourſelves, and an ally whoſe attachment to the Company may be depended on. The old Nabob could by no means be relied on for ſuch an occaſion. Both his means and deſire of ſupporting us were very uncertain, as his behaviour in the Dutch troubles evinced.

The old Nabob did not think himſelf ſafe even for one night in the city. Coſſim Aly Cawn ſupplied him with boats, and gave him leave to take away as many of his women as he deſired, and a reaſonable quantity of cloaths and jewels. We furniſhed him with a ſtrong eſcort of Europeans and Seapoys, and intended to lodge him at Heerogeel; but he would not truſt himſelf there, and begged he might ſleep in his boats cloſe to Moradbaug, which he did accordingly. We ſhall take care, that Coſſim Aly Cawn provides every thing

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thing that is convenient and handſome for himſelf and his women, and ſettle upon him a ſufficient allowance for his maintenance, and then diſpatch him with a ſtrong eſcort to Calcutta. You will pleaſe to provide two houſes for his reception; there are two belonging to Subiram Byſauc and Rauſbery Seet, which the Royroyan occupied when he was at Calcutta; if theſe can be got, we judge they will anſwer very well.

His legitimate wife, called the Begum, the mother of the deceaſed Chuta Nabob, and of Coſſim Aly Cawn's wife, refuſed to accompany the old Nabob, with whom, ſhe ſays, ſhe has not been in good harmony for a long time paſt, that ſhe is very glad the government is put into ſuch good hands, and that ſhe ſhall live much happier with her daughter and ſon-in-law.

The old Nabob is now pretty eaſy, and ſeems to be reconciled to the loſs of a power, which he owns to have been rather a burthen than a pleaſure, and too much for his abilities to manage ſince the death of his ſon, and the enjoyment of the reſt of his days in ſecurity, under the Engliſh protection, ſeems to be the chief object of his wiſhes.

Y——No. I. *Tranſlation of an Addreſs preſented to the* Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, *by the Governor.*

Dated 18 Oct. 1760.

WHEN I was at Madras, Colonel Clive frequently wrote to me upon the ſtate of the affairs of this country, and told me, that whenever he quitted this country to return to Europe, he would procure my appointment to the government. The friendſhip and connections between your Excellency and the Colonel are well

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known to me, and I hoped to have found all affairs carried on entirely according to the treaty; but what I obſerved upon my arrival, I ſhall now lay before you particularly.

I. The Engliſh forces, who are employed in your ſervice, and in the ſupport of your government at Patna, are kept without their pay.

II. The forces of the government, who are ſtationed in thoſe parts, are diſcontented and diſaffected to the ſervice for want of their pay.

III. The Seapoys of Moorſhedabad had ſurrounded your palace, in a tumultuous manner, for the arrears of their pay, and endangered your life; how deeply I was affected cannot be expreſſed; GOD is witneſs what I felt on that occaſion.

IV. I plainly perceived, that the miniſters of this court, from their covetous and baſe diſpoſitions, had ſet aſide all juſtice, were plundering the poor without cauſe, and doing what they pleaſed, not even with-holding their hands from the lives of the people, deſtroying the ſubjects, and bringing ruin and deſolation on the country.

V. The ſcarcity of proviſions, &c. is ſo great as was never before known in this country, inſomuch that the people of all degrees are in the greateſt diſtreſs. This can be owing to no other cauſe but the bad management of your miniſters.

VI. Formerly, at the deſire of the Engliſh Company, a mint was eſtabliſhed in Calcutta, and it was your order, that the Siccas of Calcutta, of the ſame weight and fineneſs as the Siccas of Moorſhedabad, ſhould paſs for equal value. Notwithſtanding your Perwanah for the enforcing this grant, the officers of the provinces have not ſuffered them to paſs, but, contrary to your order, require and inſiſt on a Batta on the Siccas.

VII. The

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VII. The war with the Shahzada still continues, notwithstanding the sums expended, and the endeavours of the English forces. This affair is yet no nearer to a conclusion than the first day. Excepting the fort of Patna, no part of the Bahar province remains in your possession. All the lands and villages are in a state of ruin, and the Zemindars in every place are ready to join the Shahzada's army, as appears from the letter to me to this purpose from Beerboom. From these circumstances it evidently appears to me, that all these difficulties came to pass after the death of your son, the late Chuta Nabob. From which time, the ministers of your government, regarding only their own interest, neglect the good of the country, and the welfare of your subjects, and employ themselves in oppressing the poor, in rapine, violence, injustice, and iniquity. When I saw the affairs of the Sircar in the hands of such faithless and unworthy men, and every thing tending still further to ruin, I lifted up my eyes to heaven, and bewailed my strange fate, that Providence should send me into this country at such a time, and in the midst of such calamities, when the dignity of the Nabob, the reputation of the Company, and the prosperity of the country are almost expired. After long consideration, I concluded, that I would make one vigorous trial immediately to remedy all these evils, hoping by God's assistance to surmount all difficulties. For this reason, I am come with great joy into your presence, and am happy in paying you my respects.

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Ya——No. II. *Tranſlation of an Addreſs preſented to the* Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, *by the Governor.*

Dated 18 Oct. 1760.

THE miniſters that are about your perſon, and who tranſact your buſineſs, are people that are wavering and changing in their councils, as is evident from the Perwanah you frequently ſent me, complaining of the bad conduct and wicked intentions of Mahrajah Rajebullub, inſiſting upon his being recalled by ſome means or other. The Colonel, conſidering the ſituation of affairs at that time, recommended Rajebullub to you; and you ſent me a copy of his recommendation in a letter, which you did me the honour to write to me, and ſaid, you was ſurprized, that the Colonel would recommend a man ſo very unfit for every buſineſs. You alſo ſent me word by the Nabob Meer Mahomed Coſſim Cawn, and the Royroyan, that the buſineſs of the moſt conſequence was to get Rajebullub down from Patna; I therefore, agreeably to your deſire, wrote to Mr. Amyatt to ſend him down. GOD only knows what counſel your miniſters gave, that the Perwanah was deferred being ſent; but that is the true cauſe of the troubles now at Patna. It is a known maxim, that a government, where the counſels change every day, cannot be well regulated.

Yb—No. III. *Tranſlation of a Letter preſented to the* Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, *by the Governor.*

Dated 18 Oct. 1760.

THE important affairs, for the regulation of which I have waited upon you, are ſubmitted

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ted to your conſideration, in a ſeparate addreſs containing ſeven articles. Now that I am here, this is the time for opening the door of the difficulties therein mentioned, which is only to be effected by the key of your enlightened wiſdom. If this opportunity be loſt, another will hardly occur, when we can meet together ſo conveniently. Beſides the particulars, which I have taken notice of, and the payment of the arrears due to the Engliſh troops, and thoſe of the Sircar, it is neceſſary to make a large proviſion for future exigencies. You have already given in pledge jewels for a large amount to be diſcharged by different payments, agreed and ſigned to in your hand. How this ſum is to be paid, unleſs the country is ſettled, I do not perceive. The pay allowed for the Engliſh army has been limitted to a lack of rupees *per* month. As the diſturbances in the country have increaſed every day; for that reaſon large ſums have been expended in bringing ſoldiers from Europe and Madras, and in raiſing Seapoys. On this account, a lack of rupees is by no means ſufficient. Let your Excellency duly reflect, that your own Seapoys, in the time of extremity, preferring their own ſafety, have joined with the forces of the enemy; and the Engliſh forces, devoted entirely to your ſervice, and the deſtruction of your enemies, never were guilty of ſuch a conduct, nor ever will be; and by the bleſſing of GOD wherever the Engliſh ſtandard has been fixed, they have always proved victorious. Upon this account, it is by no means becoming your wiſdom to neglect ſuch brave men, or to deny them their due rewards. It is neceſſary, that for this buſineſs your Excellency grant the Engliſh Company certain lands ſufficient for the pay of the troops, the expences of the artillery, and the proviſion of ſtores, &c. that without any

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trouble to yourſelf all theſe charges may be defrayed from the produce of thoſe lands, and our arms always ready to be employed in your ſervice; otherwiſe I muſt ſubmit to neceſſity. My concern for my own honour will not ſuffer me to be unmoved at the Company's loſs, but I muſt ſeek ſome expedients for promoting the intereſts of the Company, and removing the evils they are oppreſſed with, and thoſe expedients muſt be adopted. But if your affliction for the death of your ſon has taken that hold upon your mind, that you cannot attend to the remedying of ſuch great difficulties, it is proper, that you appoint ſome capable perſon, from among your children, in the place and dignity of your ſaid ſon the Nabob Naſir-ool-moolk, who may take charge of all thoſe affairs, regulate the buſineſs of the country, and remove all theſe difficulties, that your Excellency, freed from all the troubles and fatigues of the tranſactions, may remain without care and uneaſineſs, and the ſhadow of your protection overſpread the whole.

Yc—No. IV. *Tranſlation of a Letter from the Governor to the* Nabob.

Dated 19 Oct. at Night.

I Have been waiting all this day in expectation, that you would have ſettled ſome of the weighty and urgent affairs, upon which I yeſterday conferred with you, and that you would have acquainted me with your determination; but you have not favoured me with any anſwer concerning them. From hence it plainly appears, that as long as thoſe evil counſellors remain about your perſon, whatſoever I may repreſent to you for your proſperity and welfare, and the good of the country, will have no effect. The folly of thoſe

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thoſe people will ſoon deprive you of your government, and prove the ruin likewiſe of the Company's affairs. I have judged it improper, that ſuch evils and diſgrace ſhould be brought upon us for the ſake of two or three men. For this reaſon, I have ſent Colonel Caillaud with forces to wait upon you. When the ſaid Colonel arrives, he will expel thoſe bad counſellors, and place your affairs in a proper ſtate. I will ſhortly follow. Let not your Excellency be under any apprehenſions, but chearfully receive the Colonel, and give orders to your men that they commit no diſturbances, nor raiſe tumults in the city. I ſolemnly declare, that I have no other view but your good and welfare. Look upon me as your ſincere well-wiſher, and remain ſatisfied.

Z—*Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Van Sittart *to Mr.* Ellis.

Moradbaug, 22 Oct. 1760.

THE old Nabob ſet out this morning for Calcutta, eſcorted by a company of Europeans, and one of Seapoys, under the command of Captain Robertſon. I mentioned, in my letter laſt night, that he would be glad to remain at Chitpour, until the houſes are repaired for his reception. You will pleaſe to ſend two of the gentlemen to meet him at the French Gardens, and in every way receive him with a decent reſpect. He took his leave with great chearfulneſs, and, I believe, the days of his eaſe will do him more honour than thoſe of his power, and that he will be much happier; for it ſhall be my particular care, that he wants for nothing. Every thing is perfectly quiet here; I am waiting to get the Sunnuds, to ſee how the young Nabob goes on, and to give him a few uſeful inſtructions for his guidance. In

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four or five days I hope every thing will be compleat, and that I ſhall be ſetting out for Calcutta with a reinforcement for your treaſury, ſuch as will enable us to ſend a ſupply to Madras, and to keep our inveſtment jogging on here.

A1—*Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Van Sittart *to Mr.* Ellis.

Moradbaug, 23 Oct. 1760.

EVery thing remains perfectly quiet, and the new Nabob does not ſpare pains to get the affairs regulated. He will have no eaſy taſk of it. The balance due to the Seapoys is immenſe; money found in the treaſury none, only gold and ſilver plate to the amount of two or three lacks, which is ordered to be coined; and the old Nabob's Mattaſuddies pretend, that the balance due from them is trifling, that the Nabob ſpent every thing as faſt as it came in, but they do not know how. It was high time for a reform indeed; I do not think it would have been poſſible for the old Nabob to have ſaved himſelf from being murthered, or the city from plunder another month. I have engaged Juggutſeet's advice and aſſiſtance, and will ſee the Colonel diſpatched with a ſupply of money to Patna, and all other affairs reduced to a ſyſtem of prudence and oeconomy before I ſtir from hence.

A1.a.——*Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Van Sittart *and Colonel* Caillaud *to the* Select Committee.

Moradbaug, 24 Oct. 1760.

EVery thing remains perfectly quiet. The new Nabob applies with great diligence to the regulation of his affairs, and behaves ſo as to gain the

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the affection of the people. We went yesterday to the Durbar, when he acquainted us, that he had found in the treasury, of ready money, only forty or fifty thousand rupees, and about the value of three lacks in gold and silver plate, which he has ordered to be coined. Keeniram, Moonilaul, and Checon, the principal managers in the late administration, pretend likewise, that the ballances due from them are trifling. The Nabob, however, hopes to oblige them to make further discoveries, and, in the mean time, is endeavouring, with the assistance of Juggutseet, together with the usual presents, advances upon the rents, &c. to raise sufficient to pay off such a proportion of the arrears, as will satisfy the troops at Patna and here, as well as enable him to give the Company such an assistance as is mentioned in our last letter, by way of acknowledgment for their services. The Sunnuds, for the new districts, will be made out upon the arrival of Royroyan, who is expected from Ambor in three or four days.

A1.b— *Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Van Sittart *and Colonel* Caillaud *to the* Select Committee.

Moradbaug, 3 Nov. 1760.

THE difficulty the Nabob has met with in raising the sums wanted for the supply of the troops here and at Patna, has been the occasion of his deferring the Colonel's dispatch till to-morrow evening.

He will carry with him in bills and money seven lacks of rupees, of which two are for the English army, and two for the Nabob's.

The Nabob having given the Company the Perwanahs for the districts of Burdwan, Midnapoor,

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poor, and Chittagong from the tenth of October, the allowance of one lack *per* month, ſtipulated to be paid by the Nabob for the expences of the army in the field muſt be reckoned from the firſt of December 1759, to the thirtieth of September 1760, being ten months, or ten lacks of rupees, of which nine and a half lacks have been paid, including the two lacks beforementioned; the remaining half lack the Nabob will remit to the Colonel.

This done, all the future demands of the army muſt be ſupplied by the Company. We have engaged Juggutſeet to take all opportunities that may offer, of advancing money at Patna, to receive it again at Calcutta, for a premium of two *per Cent.*

The Colonel will do all that he poſſibly can, conſiſtently with the good of the ſervice, to make the expences of the army light. Indeed, it is not only with this view, but for many other urgent conſiderations, much to be wiſhed, that an end could be put to the war with the Shahzada. We might almoſt ſay, that it is abſolutely neceſſary, for the pay of the troops in the armies of the late Chuta Nabob, and of Ramnarain, amount to ſo immenſe a ſum monthly, that the revenues of the three provinces would ſcarce be ſufficient fully to anſwer it. Notwithſtanding therefore, the ſum now ſent by the Nabob, and all the future ſupplies, he may be able to furniſh, the arrears can never be paid off, but, on the contrary, muſt continue growing.

For a diſorder ſo deſperate, what remedy is to be found? The moſt we can hope is, to palliate and prevent its increaſe, and endeavour, in the mean time, to bring our buſineſs to a concluſion. The Colonel, upon his arrival at Patna, will immediately take the field, and ſeek the Shahzada, to oblige him, either to come to terms of accommodation,

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modation, or venture a battle. With regard to the reduction of the Nabob's troops, the Colonel will take such measures, upon his arrival, as he shall judge most eligible.

A 1, c.—*Copy of a Letter from the* Select Committee (*Mess.* Ellis, Sumner, *and* M'Gwire) *to Mr.* Van Sittart *and Colonel* Caillaud.

Dated 24 Oct. 1760.

WE have been honoured with your favour of the twenty-first, and one from the President of the twentieth instant; by which we have been informed of the great success that has attended your operations. We most heartily congratulate you on your having amply effected the intended purposes without the effusion of blood or any disturbance, and are highly pleased to find the Nabob so well reconciled to his present situation. We doubt not, but what has been so well begun, will be concluded for the benefit and advantage of the Company, and that the affairs of the government will in future be put on a secure and proper footing.

We have given the necessary directions for the reception and accommodation of the old Nabob, whenever he arrives at Calcutta.

A few days, we flatter ourselves, will bring this matter to a conclusion, and that we shall very shortly have the pleasure of the Governor's presence with us.

A 1, d.—*Copy*

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A1,d—— *Copy of a Letter from Mr.* Ellis *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

Dated 24 Oct. 1760.

I Had the honour to addreſs you laſt night, and this evening was favoured with your's of the twenty-firſt inſtant, incloſing a letter to the Committee. I moſt heartily congratulate you on the ſucceſs of your negociations, but muſt, at the ſame time lament the neceſſity you have been under of depoſing the old Nabob. Directions are given to prepare the two houſes you mentioned for his reception, and in caſe he ſhould arrive before they are put in proper order, Mr. Sumner will accommodate him for a day or two at Chilpore.

A1,e ——*Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Ellis *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

25 Oct. 1760.

IT is with much pleaſure, I hear of the tranquillity that reigns in the city; ſuch a revolution with ſo little diſturbance ſcarce ever happened, and I dare ſay, Sir, there will be nothing wanting, on your part, to place this tranquillity on a laſting and ſolid foundation.

B1.——*Copy of Mr.* Verelſt's *Minute of the eighth of* November, *to which Mr.* Smyth *aſſented.*

MR. Verelſt begs leave to obſerve, that the board has been till now kept entirely ignorant of the proceedings of the Select Committee relating to the preſent revolution, and their motives for it, he therefore cannot pretend to judge,

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judge, how far ſuch a ſtep was neceſſary, but thinks, that, in an affair of ſuch immediate conſequence to the Company's eſtates in theſe parts, the moſt mature conſideration of the whole board ſhould have been firſt had; that a treaty executed in the moſt ſolemn manner ſubſiſted between Meer Jaffier and Us, the moſt faithful adherence to which, as well as all other our engagements, has preſerved that influence and power we have maintained ever ſince the recapture of Calcutta, a ſteadineſs to which treaty made the Britiſh admired, nay even courted by every prince throughout theſe provinces, and has ever been fatal to the Prince apparent of the Empire, and many other diſturbers, who have hitherto weakly endeavoured to engage us to break through thoſe ſolemn ties we were ſworn to. As this ſudden change muſt alarm every one to find us ſo unexpectedly breaking through all our engagements, which were ſo publick, reputable, and to the honour of the nation, he cannot be blamed as a member of the board for expreſſing his diſſatisfaction at being made a cypher of in ſo critical a concern.

Regarding theſe objections, as chiefly to have proceeded from thoſe gentlemen not being fully acquainted with the motives of the Select Committee's reſolutions, the Preſident only made the following reply.

C1.—*Copy of Mr.* Van Sittart's *Reply to the foregoing* Minute.

THE Preſident begs leave to remark upon the foregoing minute, that though Mr. Verelſt and Mr. Smyth might, without the leaſt preſumption, think, that they and the reſt of the gentlemen of the council ought to have been conſulted, upon an affair of ſo much importance, before

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before it was carried into execution, yet their venturing to condemn or approve, before they know the nature of the engagements entered into, the reasons why, or the manner in which the whole was conducted, seems rather premature, especially as they will have an opportunity of so soon making themselves competent judges, the whole being now ordered to be laid before the board, as mentioned in the former part of their minute.

The reason, why the whole council was not before informed, was, that it was an affair that absolutely required secrecy, and it is expressly for the conduct of such affairs, that the Court of Directors has thought proper to appoint a Select Committee. To the secrecy, which was observed, may, in great measure, be attributed the speedy and easy success which attended the execution, and the preventing all disturbance and loss of blood.

DI.——*Copy of a* Memorial *on the Subject of the Revolution in the* Bengal *Government, in the Year* 1760.

THE Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn was of a temper extremely tyrannical and avaritious, and at the same time very indolent; and the people about him being either abject slaves and flatterers, or else the base instruments of his vices, there was no chance of having the affairs of the government properly conducted, but by their removal. He attributed all the ill success of his affairs to imaginary plots and contrivances, and sacrificed lives without mercy to the excess of his jealousy. Numberless are the instances of men of all degrees, whose blood he spilt without the least assigned reason. To learn the names and circumstances of all these sufferers would be a work of time, but

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but ſome of the moſt ſtriking examples are theſe following.

Coja Haddee, the firſt Buxy, firſt baniſhed for a pretended conſpiracy againſt the Nabob's life, and afterwards cut off at Shabad in his march out of the province.

Meer Cazim, the ſecond Buxy, invited by the Chuta Nabob to his houſe, and, after having received from him unuſual marks of affection, aſſaſſinated at the gates of the palace.

Abdal Ohab Cawn murdered at the Rumna, in the month of March 1760, by ſome of the Hircarahs belonging to Checon, who way-laid him for that purpoſe, by the Nabob's orders.

Yâr Mahmud, formerly in great favour with the Nabob Serajah Dowla, and ſince Droga of the Emârut, ſlain in the preſence of the Chuta Nabob, in the month of April 1760.

Gaſſeeta Begum, widow of the Nabob Shahâmut Jung.

Emma Begum, mother to the Nabob Serajah Dowla.

Murâda Dowla, the ſon of Pâdſhâ Couli Cawn, adopted by Shahâmut Jung.

Lutfen Niſſa Begum, widow of the Nabob Serajah Dowla.

Her infant daughter by Serâjah Dowla.

The five unhappy ſufferers, mentioned laſt, periſhed all in one night at Dacca, about the month of June 1760, where they had been detained priſoners, ſince the acceſſion of Jaffier Aly Cawn to the government. A Perwana was ſent to Jeſsârut Cawn, the Nabob of Dacca, to put to death all the ſurvivors of the family of the Nabobs, Aliverde Cawn, Shahamut Jung, and Serajah Dowla; but, upon his declining to obey ſo cruel an order, the meſſenger, who had private

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private inſtructions to execute this tragedy, in caſe of the other's refuſal, took them from the place of their confinement, carried them out at midnight upon the river, and maſſacred and drowned them, with about ſeventy women of inferior note, and attendants. What became of Aliverdi Cawn's widow is uncertain, it being reported by many, that ſhe eſcaped the fate of the reſt of her family.

Executions of this kind had made the Nabob the dread, or the deteſtation of all good men, and he neceſſarily became a prey to people of mean extraction and abject diſpoſitions, who knowing, that a government ſo managed could not ſtand long, ſought only to make themſelves rich by oppreſſions of all ſorts upon the country and inhabitants. To the heavy taxes, laid by them on the markets, is aſcribed the preſent unuſual ſcarcity and dearneſs of proviſions at the city, the capital of a country once eſteemed the moſt plentiful in the world. The perſons, who have had the chief ſhare in this bad management, are Keeneram, Monilol, and Checon, all of low birth; and the two firſt the menial ſervants of Jaffier Aly Cawn, before he came to the Subaſhip. Theſe managed ſo as to engage him continually in idle or vicious amuſements, keeping him; by that means, in utter ignorance of his affairs, and in a ſtate of indifference as to their ſucceſs. No money came into his treaſury, at the ſame time nothing was paid to his army, inſomuch that his troops mutinied, and ſurrounded his palace, in a tumultuous manner, threatening to take away his life, which they would certainly have done, had not his ſon-in-law, the preſent Nabob Coſſim Aly Cawn, become anſwerable, and paid them a very large ſum out of his own treaſury. This happened laſt June, and if the imminent

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imminent danger, with which his person was threatened, on this occasion, awakened him for a moment, no sooner was it removed again to a distance than he fell back into the lethargy, which had so long possessed him. The same unworthy ministers remained still his only counsellors, and continued in the management of his affairs to the last day of his administration, which he left in so confused and impoverished a state, that, in all human appearance, another month could hardly have run through, before he would have been cut off by his own Seapoys, and the city have become a scene of plunder and disorder, the Nabob having made no farther provision for the payment of the arrears due to his people, after Cossim Aly Cawn had freed him from his former extremity. This danger he could not but foresee, and more than once declared his apprehensions of it, yet had not the power to exert the necessary means for preventing it, but sunk the deeper into dejection.

Besides this intestine danger, to which the government was exposed, two armies were in the field, and waiting only the fair weather to advance; the Shahzada towards Patna, and the Beerboom Rajah towards Moorshedabad the capital. The Rajahs of Bissenpoor, Ramgur, and the other countries bordering upon the mountains, were ready to shake off their dependence, and had offered considerable supplies to the Beerboom Rajah. The Rajah of Curruckpoor had committed open hostilities, and taken possession of all the country about Banglepoor, which entirely stopped the communication between the two provinces on that side of the river. In a word, the whole country seemed quite ripe for an universal revolt, those parts only excepted, whose natural weakness or neighbourhood with the city, intimidated them

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from taking up arms. To encounter all these difficulties there was nothing but troops without pay, from whom therefore no great efforts could be expected. Of this a very recent instance occurs in the detachment, which was ordered against the Beerboom Rajah three months before the Nabob's abdication, but never advanced more than three cos's from the city, in which situation they continued upon my arrival there.

All who are now in Bengal, and acquainted with the transactions of the government will bear witness, that this is a true description of facts; and all who are convinced of the facts will certainly agree, that affairs were at an extremity no longer to be neglected, without manifest danger of having the province over-run, and the trade entirely ruined. I was resolved, therefore, to use my utmost endeavours to get these bad ministers removed, and judging it might be difficult to prevail with the Nabob to part with his favourites, without some degree of violence, I brought with me a detachment of Europeans and Seapoys, under pretence of sending them with Colonel Caillaud, to reinforce the army at Patna. . . . . (Here follows, an account of the Revolution, as has been already related, in the letters from Mr. Van Sittart and Colonel Caillaud at Moradbaug.) . . . . . Cossim Aly Cawn supplied the Nabob with boats, and permitted him to take away as many of his women as he desired (which he did to the number of about sixty) with a reasonable quantity of jewels. . . . . In the morning of the twenty-second of October, he set out for Calcutta, and arrived there the twenty-ninth. He was met by a deputation from the Council, and treated with every mark of respect due to his former dignity.

E1.—*Copy*

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E. 1. *Copy of Mr. Amyatt's Minute, to which Mess. Ellis and Smyth assented.*

MR. Amyatt takes this opportunity to observe, that he is of opinion, the reasons given for deposing Jaffier Aly Cawn (for he can look upon it in no other light) are far from being sufficient to convict him of breach of faith; consequently, in the eyes of the world, the whole odium of such a proceeding must retort upon ourselves. The cruelties, of which he is accused, must, to a civilized government, appear shocking; but in despotic ones, there are none entirely free from instances of this kind, as their own fears and jealousies are ever prompting them to such unwarrantable actions, and it is well known, that the present Nabob has already fallen into the same severities, as likewise, that he has shewn marks of favour to those ministers, who, we are told, "saw with an evil eye the influence of the Company, and readily snatched "at every occasion to reduce it." Meer Jaffier's being confirmed, by the Court of Delly, in the Soubaship, was a very valuable consideration, which ought not to have been overlooked, because, whenever that distracted state is restored to peace and tranquillity, he being legally in possession of the government, would of course be confirmed by the reigning king without hesitation; whereas the obtaining so great a favour for Cossim Aly Cawn must be attended with both difficulty and expence. The treaty subsisting between Us and Cossim Aly Cawn plainly shews, that his sole aim, at the time of entering into it, was the Subadarry of Bengal, otherwise, how ridiculous was it for him, to make a promise of ceding certain countries to the Company,

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which his poſt of Duan could never have given him the power of executing. The great advantages expected to accrue from thoſe countries, it is feared, will prove entirely imaginary, as it is now near three months ſince this revolution was effected, and yet ſo far from any appearance of extricating ourſelves from our difficulties as expected, we are involved in freſh troubles every day, which will not appear ſtrange, when we caſt our eyes upon the perſon we have raiſed to the Muſned, whoſe character was never conſpicuous in any light till lately, and whoſe treacherous behaviour to his father-in-law leaves us very little hopes of his attachment to our intereſt; nor indeed can it be expected, that he will place any confidence in us, who have aſſiſted to dethrone a man we were bound to ſupport by the moſt ſolemn ties, divine and human. Such a breach of faith muſt neceſſarily occaſion the loſs of our influence in this country, and bereave us of the ſuperiority, which our ſteady adherence to our promiſe, ever gave us over theſe people. For the above reaſons, Mr. Amyatt diſſents to the whole tranſactions, and farther declares, that he never was conſulted, nor adviſed with, concerning it, nor did he know, that it was ever intended, till publick report had informed him of its execution.

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FIFTH. *The Governor, Colonel Caillaud, and the other Gentlemen of the Council, who did, and still continue to approve of the late Transactions with the Country Government, beg leave to offer a few Observations upon Mr. Amyatt's Minute of last Consultation; the Tenor of which might deceive the World, if not examined, but when examined will be found to have little Foundation.*

IF the Select Committee, debating upon the dangerous state of the affairs of the province, in August and September last, had been desirous of breaking with the then Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, there were reasons enough to justify, nay, to urge such a resolution. The letter, which the former Governor Mr. Holwell laid before the Select Committee, the fourth of August, for the information of Mr. Van Sittart, then just arrived, contains more than sufficient proofs of that Nabob's breach of his engagements to the Company. Many instances are mentioned of his jealousy of the English power, and of his refusal of every favour that was asked him, which might tend to encrease it. We have, in our hands, an authentic proof of one most essential instance of his ill faith therein mentioned. It is said in the treaty, that our enemies should be his enemies, but it is beyond doubt, that he urged the Dutch to send for forces to oppose ours. We have an original letter of the Directore to the Nabob, which plainly implies, that it was with his consent those troops were sent for, and the tenor of the general advices transmitted to Europe last season sufficiently shews this was Colonel Clive's opinion, though he mentioned it with all possible tender-

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neſs. Nor, if we had deſired to remove Jaffer Aly Cawn from the government, need we have done more than withdrawn our protection. His government would ſoon have been put an end to, and probably his life alſo, which was more than once in extreme danger from his own people.

But, mindful of the connections that had been between him and the Company, we had the moſt tender regard both for his perſon and government, neither of which could have ſubſiſted without other ſupports than thoſe he had about him. After the unfortunate death of his ſon, his ſon-in-law Coſſim Aly Cawn was the proper perſon to ſucceed to the government, and, being his neareſt relation, it was thought his counſel and aſſiſtance would be the leaſt obnoxious. But if, on the other hand, he ſhould have determined to admit of no one near him, and continually refuſe every application for the advantage of the Company, and even common juſtice in the performance of paſt agreements, would it have been expedient to ſacrifice the intereſt of the Company, and the proſpect of relieving the province from its diſtreſſed ſtate to the invincible jealouſy of one man? And might we not, with more reaſon, place our paſt ſervices in the ſcale againſt the benefits received from him, and purſue with ſteadineſs the plan determined on, as moſt for the welfare of the country in general, and of the Company in particular?

That Coſſim Aly Cawn had views of the Subaderry for himſelf, when he entered into the treaty with us, is beyond all doubt; but they were views in reverſion, not immediate. In the mean time he engaged, that, through the influence we were to give him over the old Nabob, he would obtain for the Company the grants therein mentioned.

But

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But it is inſinuated in Mr. Amyatt's Minute, that our affairs are in a worſe condition now than before the change of the government. That the addition of Burdwan, Midnapoor, and Chittagong to the Company's poſſeſſions, without the loſs of a man, is a hurt to the Company, ſeem to me a paradox. It is ſaid, that it is near three months ſince the revolution was effected, and yet there is no appearance of extricating ourſelves from the difficulties, and that the great advantages expected to accrue from thoſe countries will prove, it is feared, merely imaginary. It is only twenty days ſince the Burdwan Vackeel came here, and ſettled the payment. This day is the firſt payment due, and, although the Rajah's faith is not to be depended upon, yet, it is probable, he will pay the money, according to the agreement, to make his peace; if not, the country is worth that and more money, and lies ſo convenient, that it can always be diſpoſed of as we ſee beſt.

As to Midnapore, it is not a month ſince Captain White took poſſeſſion, and he had no orders to collect money. Mr. Johnſtone is appointed for that purpoſe, but ſet out ſo lately that his arrival is not yet heard of.

And for Chittagong, Mr. Verelſt and the other gentlemen appointed ſet out only twenty days ago. We muſt give them time to arrive before we can expect to collect money.

Surely, here is a fair proſpect of advantages accruing to the Company, and of preſent benefits, inſtances may alſo be mentioned.

"The payment of the arrears due to the Engliſh troops at Patna, and of what we advanced to the Nabob's troops.

"An aſſiſtance to the Company of five lacks, "which Mr. Batſon at Coſſimbazar is now receiving.

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"Leave granted for coining Moorshedabad "Siccas in our mint, which was before confined "to Calcutta Siccas.

"Who would there have been to oppose the "march of the Beerboom Rajah to the capital "of Moorshedabad? For the old Nabob had "neither the means of making his own troops "take the field, nor would he trust the English.

"Where would the Nabob's troops at Patna "have got a supply of seven or eight lacks of "rupees, as the present Nabob has paid them "since his coming to the government?

We believe no one will pretend to say, the old Nabob would or could have made such efforts, or would have granted such favours to the Company.

As to the Mogul's Firmaun, there was a time when the orders of Delly had some weight at Bengal, but that time is no more. It is hard to say, who is king at Delly, or who will be, but if ever it comes to be settled, there is little doubt of Cossim Aly Cawn's getting a Firmaun with as much ease as one was procured for the old Nabob, who never paid the king his share of the revenues.

It is asserted, that the ministers complained of under the old Nabob have received marks of favour from the present Nabob. Two of them have received the compliments of a Kellaar, or address upon the adjustment of their accounts, but are in no employ or trust. If they were, it would not be in their power to do now the same injuries to the Company and the country, as they did in the old Nabob's time; because the present Nabob would not be so easily led, or give ear to their evil counsels, as his predecessor.

It is asserted also, that the present Nabob has been guilty of some assassinations. This the Governor believes is a false report. He declares, that

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that he had not before heard of any such proceeding, although he has pretty good intelligence of what passes, and that he has enquired particularly since he saw it so positively asserted, and has great reason to think it is an unjust accusation. If it should prove true, we should not so easily excuse a crime so shocking, nor think of it so lightly as it is represented in Mr. Amyatt's Minute. *

That Mr. Smyth should subscribe to this opinion, is not to be wondered at, because he subscribed to one of the like nature of Mr. Vansittart's in consultation of the eighth of November, without having read any of the proceedings. But that Mr. Ellis should subscribe to it, after signifying his approbation of the measures in many letters that have been wrote on the subject, and particularly in one from the Select Committee to the Governor, and Colonel Caillaud, dated the twenty-fourth of November, is somewhat surprizing, and gives fresh reason to apprehend, what has been long suspected, that other persons, not in the Company's service, nor having any regard for the Company, are consulted upon affairs which do not belong to them, by which unfortunately they gain an ascendancy over the minds of better men than themselves; and this authority they exert to the utmost, to the purpose of making divisions in the settlement, and more particularly in the Council.

* *N. B.* It afterwards appeared, that there was no foundation for Mr. Amyatt's assertion. The pretended sufferers were, a son of Sirferauz Cawn (Nabob of Bengal twenty years ago) and the widow of Aliverdy Cawn, (the next Nabob after Sirferauz Cawn). Upon enquiry I found, that these two persons, instead of having suffered any violence, were obliged to the Nabob's benevolence for a handsome maintenance, upon which they lived at their ease, instead of being reduced to beg, which was their case before.

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Council. It is only such pens as those that can reflect upon the late measures, as a breach of "all "ties human and divine." A reproach, which nothing can merit, but a premeditated intention to do some great ill.

It were to be wished, in dissents of this nature, that the reasons, for the measures formed, were considered in their full extent, the situation of the Company at home, and the situation of their affairs in general well weighed. All these, in as full a manner as possible, were laid before the board, and our necessities and wants so plainly appeared, that all members present were satisfied and convinced, that unless some other measures were pursued, we could not keep up the cause any longer. It was plain, that what was proposed to be done was rather the effect of necessity than choice, and what followed was certainly unexpected. It was therefore impossible, that Mr. Amyatt could be made acquainted with a design that never existed. Those to whose consideration it fell were unanimous in their opinion, and they flatter themselves, that all who will take into their view the then state of affairs, the nature of the resolutions taken, and all the circumstances attending this transaction, and will judge thereupon with candour, not suffering themselves to be biassed by the prejudices of others, will do us more justice, and be far from calling in question our sense of the faith of treaties, or our regard for the nation's honour, and our own.

GI.—*Copy of Mr.* Ellis's Minute *of the sixteenth of* January 1761.

MR. Ellis thinks it incumbent on him to reply to that part of the Governor's, &c.'s Minute

Minute entered in last Monday's consultation, where such surprize is expressed at his dissent, after signifying his approbation of the late measures, in many letters that have been wrote on the subject. Mr. Ellis has carefully perused, and yet cannot find, that his approbation is any where signified, not even in that (particularly quoted) of the twenty-fourth of November, unless a complimentary congratulation can, in any ways, be construed as an approval of the design, a light in which he flatters himself no impartial judge can look upon it. His sentiments with regard to the revolution have never altered, nor have they ever been kept a secret; but he conceives, there was no absolute necessity they should appear upon the face of the consultation till now, when it became so for his own justification to his employers.

The reflection of his being influenced in his opinion by others, though not of so good a turn of mind as himself, is a compliment to his morals at the expence of his capacity, which being merely personal, and quite foreign to the subject in hand, might as well have been spared; and, in answer thereto he only wishes, that, for the good of the settlement, others in power were as little influenced, in the management of public affairs by the opinion of those about them, as he himself.

III. ——*Extract of a Letter from the* Select Committee *to Major* Carnac.

9 Feb. 1761.

WE observe, that when Colonel Caillaud began his march to Patna, the beginning of last year, he had particular instructions from Colonel Clive, and the rest of the Committee, to protect Ramnarain, in case of the Nabob's making

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making any attempt against his person or honour. We believe such an injunction at this time unnecessary, as the present Nabob seems to be well inclined towards Ramnarain; but should it prove otherwise, it is our resolution to have the same regard to the former engagements in his favour as was then designed, and therefore direct you, in case of necessity, to protect Ramnarain against all violence and injustice, that may be offered to his person, honour or fortune.

As to Rajebullub, he can have no reasonable objection to a fair examination of his accounts by the Nabob, or such person as he shall appoint, that a just statement being made of all the monies he has received, for defraying the charges of the troops under his command, together with a due inquiry of what number of troops have really been kept up, and how much every one has been paid, the ballance, that is found due, may then be discharged, and Rajebullub be employed again, or not, as the Nabob thinks proper. This the Nabob declares is all he asks, and in this (as it is just and reasonable) you will yield him all the necessary assistance.

II. ——*Extract of a Letter from Major* Carnac *to the* Select Committee.

24 Feb. 1761.

YOU may depend upon my giving the Nabob all the assistance in my power, to settle every thing in the province in the best manner. I will also very readily lend my assistance, in the adjusting the payment of that part of the troops under Rajebullub, as far as he means to act fairly by them; but should he expect any support from me in acts of injustice, he will be much mistaken; the English forces, while I have the

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the honour of commanding them, shall never be employed as instruments of violence and oppression.

Your directions, in regard to Ramnarain, shall be religiously observed. I could not have received any order, from you, with more pleasure than this, of protecting a person, for whom, I know Colonel Clive had a particular regard, and who himself deserves much at the hands of the English, on acount of the attachment he has all along shewn to them, however ill he might be disposed to the Nabob.

XI. ——*Extract of a Letter from the* Select Committee *(Mess.* Van Sittart, Amyatt, Ellis, *and* Sumner) *to Major* Carnac.

7 March 1761.

WE imagine the Nabob has, before this time, reached Patna. By his conduct hitherto, we see no reason to apprehend his engaging in any acts of violence or injustice; nor if he should, is it our desire you should support him in them. Our directions for your conduct, with respect to him, are only these; that you give him the assistance he may apply for, to reduce to obedience such Zemindars as have been disaffected to the government of Moorshedabad, and to enable him to establish securities in the several countries of the Bahar province, and collect the revenues due therefrom; and, in regard to Rajebullub, and all others, who have had the management of the public monies, or the payment of the troops, or otherwise have accounts to settle with the government, as their disposition to make use of the protection of the English, to screen them from a just and usual examination, is well known,

you

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you will be careful not to give them countenance or encouragement, so far as to put it in their power, to make an ill use of your name and authority; but, on the contrary, if any shall obstinately and unreasonably persist in refusing to settle accounts with the government, you are to give the Nabob the assistance, he may require, for compelling them to it.

LI.—*Extract of a Letter from Major* Carnac *to the* Select Committee.

Patna, 6 March 1761.

THE Nabob continues encamped at Bykuntpoor, about six or seven cos off, where I have waited upon him. Whatever good qualities he may have, courage is not one of them. He betrayed the most shameful fear of the Shahzada, though the unhappy Prince is reduced so low, as to be much more an object of pity than of fear. Not thinking himself sufficiently secure with the large force he brought up with him, he sent for, without acquainting me, both Ramnarain and Rajeballub with their forces, whom I had directed to remain in Comgar Cawn's country, with a detachment from our army, under the command of Captain Champion. I no sooner heard this than I recalled Captain Champion likewise, which has given the Nabob great offence; so great, that he asked me in the public Durbar, whether I would comply with the contents of the letter he brought me from the President? I answered him, I would; so far as I was well persuaded Mr. Van Sittart expected from me, who did not mean, that I was to pay him an implicit obedience. I farther told him, that the direction of the English forces was left with me, and that it was not reasonable any part of

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of them should remain in a country, with which they were wholly unacquainted, after he had withdrawn his own people. I have however, at his request, ordered Captain Champion's detachment to halt awhile at Bahar, but shall call them in entirely, unless he sends out a body of his own troops to act in conjunction with them, the neglect whereof will infallibly bring Comgar Cawo from out of his hills again. The Nabob next asked me, whether I looked upon him as Subadar of these provinces, and was willing to assist him as such? In answer to which, I plainly told him, I would give him all the assistance I could consistent with honour and justice, that further I would not do for him or any man. The very question gives me room to suspect he has some unreasonable demands to make of me; should this be the case, he will undergo the mortification of a denial. . . . . I parted from the Nabob yesterday evening. We were both, you will judge, pretty much dissatisfied with each other; he with me, for speaking my mind so freely to him, a thing very unprecedented in this country; and I with him, for the delays and obstructions he is likely to cause to our military operations.

Mr. ——— *Extract of a Letter from the* Nabob *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

Received 13 March 1761.

ON the twenty-sixth of Rejub, I arrived at Byruntpoor, where I had the pleasure of meeting Major Carnac, Mharajah Ramnarain, and Mharajah Rajebullub. Among other things that Major told me, that he had sent for the troops which were at Gaunty, in the Zemindary of Comgar Cawo. I replied, that to chastize Comgar

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gar Cawn was no difficult matter, but that it was not proper to recall the troops belonging to the Company and myſelf, in ſo much haſte, from the place where they were ſtationed. This he did not conſent to; but replied, that he would certainly ſend for his Engliſh troops. I delivered your letter to him; when he peruſed it, he ſaid, that Mr. Van Sittart is two hundred coſs from hence, and that he would do whatever he thought adviſeable. I was perſuaded, that he would have acted according to your directions, and did not imagine that he would have given me ſuch an anſwer.

The Select Committee hoping, by a farther explanation of their intentions, to prevent any more diſputes wrote Major Carnac as follows:

No. —— *Copy of a Letter from the* Select Committee (*Meſſ.* Van Sittart, Amyatt, Ellis, *and* Sumner) *to Major* Carnac.

17 March 1761.

WE have received your favour of the ſixth, ſuch part thereof as relates to the Shahzada, we ſhall fully reply to, in an addreſs to yourſelf, and Mr. M'Gwire.

We are extremely concerned, to ſee the diſagreeable circumſtances that paſſed, at your firſt interview, with the Nabob, eſpecially as ſuch a want of confidence ſhewn in a public Durbar cannot fail to hurt both parties in the eyes of the world. We hope, a longer acquaintance will create a greater harmony, which we muſt earneſtly recommend both to you and the Nabob, as the public ſervice muſt ſuffer, if any difference ſubſiſt, for thoſe are never wanting who will ſeek to make their advantage by it.

It

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It is certainly right, and conformable to our inclinations, that the diſpoſition of the army, and the determination on all military matters, ſhould reſt with our commanding officer. The Nabob's ſending for Ramnarain and Rajebullub with their forces, without firſt conſulting you, was a very imprudent ſtep, and much to be blamed, and, perhaps, may have been attended with bad conſequences to his own affairs, as it ſeems to have been in the power of Comgar Cawn to have returned to his own country. We cannot ſuppoſe the Nabob had any ſuch view, becauſe it is evidently his own loſs; but whatever his reaſons might be, he ought certainly to have acquainted you with them, and we doubt not but he will be ſenſible, from your repreſentations, how much his own intereſt depends on following your advice in all military matters. On the other hand, it is our intention, that you comply with his requeſt in every thing reſpecting the regulation of the country, and the collection of the revenues. Any detachments he may aſk for ſuch ſervices, you are to grant, unleſs you have reaſon to judge, that the ſafety of our troops will be at too great a riſk. We think this diſtinction ſufficiently clear, and flatter ourſelves that no diſputes can hereafter ariſe.

Soon after this, Colonel Coote arrived in Bengal, and was appointed to take the command of the army at Patna. He accordingly ſet out the twenty-ſecond of April, and the following inſtructions were given him by the Select Committee.

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O1.—*Extract of Instructions from the* Select Committee, (*Mef.* Van Sittart, Coote, Amyatt, *and* Ellis) *to Colonel* Coote.

21 April 1761.

SUCH assistance, as the Nabob may be in need of, to collect the balances due to the Sircar, we desire you will be pleased to yield him.

We are advised by Major Carnac, that there is a difference between the Nabob and Ramnarain relative to the accounts of the Patna province. We hope this may be amicably and seasonably adjusted, and request you will give your assistance towards it as much as possible. As Ramnarain has been remarkably steady in his alliance with the Company, and received from Colonel Clive particular assurances of his protection, with respect to his person, fortune, and government, we recommend to you to secure him against all attempts of oppression or injustice; and farther, that the government of Patna be preserved to him, if it is his inclination to continue in it. It is needless for us to add, that it will be far more agreeable to all parties, if that can be done, by representing to the Nabob the obligations we are under to Ramnarain, and preventing, by that means, the necessity of any forceable measures.

P1.— *Extract of a Letter from the* Select Committee (*Mef.* Van Sittart, Amyatt, *and* Ellis) *to Colonel* Coote.

28 April 1761.

THE Nabob has made various representations to us of the difficulties he meets with in settling his accounts with Ramnarain. As, on the

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the one hand, we are inclined to support Ramnarain in the government of Patna, with all its just advantages; on the other, we would protect the Nabob in the respect and authority due to him, and afford him every assistance for the collection of his revenues, without which it is impossible he can pay the arrears of his troops, or support the other charges of his government. The nature of the differences between them seems to be such as can only be adjusted by arbitration; and, for this determination, we can pitch upon no other person so well qualified as yourself. We therefore request, that you will make this business one of the first articles of your attention, and when you are yourself acquainted with the merits of the cause, you will transmit them to us with your sentiments thereon.

Q. *Extract of a Letter from the* Select Committee (*Mes.* Van Sittart, Amyatt *and* Ellis) *to Colonel* Coote *and Mr.* McGwire.

8 May 1761.

WE desire you, gentlemen, will use your utmost endeavours to adjust the accounts between the Nabob and Ramnarain, in such manner as shall appear to you most equitable, and so that the revenues may be duly collected, and the balances not be lost to the Sircar and the public service.

Upon the news of Colonel Coote's arrival, Major Carnac determined to quit Patna, and wrote so to the Select Committee, in the following terms.

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R1. ——*Extract of a Letter from Major* Carnac *to the* Select Committee.

8 May 1761.

AS Colonel Coote is coming to the army, who is so very able to take charge both of your military and political concerns, there will be no farther occasion for my services; and as I have great reason to believe I shall return to Europe the next season, unless something unforeseen should happen, I am to request the favour of your permission to apply to Colonel Coote for leave to go to Calcutta on his arrival. I should not make this request so early, but that I am desirous to be there in time, that, in case I go home (which is highly probable) I may be able to get myself ready to take the opportunity of the first conveyance.

S1.——*Extract of a Letter from the* Nabob *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

Received 12 April 1761.

THrough the instigations of the disaffected, the ties of friendship are broken between the Major and me. He gives me such orders as it is not in my power to comply with, and will not listen to the answers I make him. For several days it has been reported, that the Shah will march from hence, and the Major told me to day that he would accompany him to the Currumnassa, and desired, I would let Mharajah Ramnarain proceed with him, and that I would give the Shah two lack of rupees more for his way charges. I replied, that Mharajah Ramnarain was the commander of this country, and that it was necessary he should stay to regulate the affairs.

S1.a—*Extract*

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No. VI. *Extract of a Letter from the* Nabob *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

Received 28 April 1761.

I Before heard of the imprudence and evil intentions of Ramnarain, but since my arrival at Patna, I have seen nothing but baseness and deceit; and therefore Major Carnac is displeased with me, and has sent me such messages by Mr. Lushington, as it is not in my power to comply with. Till this time, I did not think it necessary to acquaint you of the whole affair; but the business is now going out of my hands, and through the wickedness of my enemies my affairs will be ruined. It is necessary for me to acquaint you with all particulars, and to desire your advice. From what the Major wrote me, I imagine he is displeased. Inclosed, I send you two of his letters for your perusal. I am much surprized, that though you wrote to the gentlemen to be in friendship with me, and follow my advice, yet they act in such a manner, that I have no power over my own Naib; and then what other business can I carry on? Now Colonel Coote is coming, and Major Carnac is on good terms with him. Doubtless, you have properly represented to him, that, according to the first agreement, whoever remains in this Province, on the part of the Company, is to be my ally, and act agreeable to my desire. Take care, that what regulations I think proper to make in this Province, may be consented to by the gentlemen, or else give me orders to deliver the affairs of the Province into their hands.

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S1.b——*Extract of a Letter from the* Nabob *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

Received 30 April 1761.

YOU acquaint me, that I must rest satisfied, and put an end to the business, and that I must not be under any apprehensions from the misrepresentations of others .... Before my arrival here, I understood, that the affairs of the Province were ruined, and that Ramnarain acted contrary to my interest; but, since my arrival, I have been an eye-witness of it. And Ramnarain, by his deceits, has brought the Major over to his interest, and it was through his representations, that the Major sent Mr. Lushington so often to me to desire I would give him leave to depart. Ramnarain well knowing, that the Major accompanied the Shah, was desirous of going with him, because his paying the money due from him, and giving me an account of his concerns would be delayed by that means.

S1.c——*Extract of a Letter from the* Nabob *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

Received 15 June 1761.

YOU have several times wrote to me to procure a Sunnud for the Subadarry. In consequence of your letters, I drew up an address to his Majesty, when he had intentions of proceeding to Delly with his royal standard, and I wanted to present it, and get it signed by his Majesty, but Colonel Coote would not consent to it, and therefore I deferred it.

S1.d——*Ex-*

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81.d *Extract of a Letter from the* Nabob *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

Received 16 June 1760.

THE seventeenth of Shevaul I went with Colonel Coote to visit his Majesty, who was at Derryopoor, about four cols to the westward of Patna. . . . . In consequence of your letter, I carried with me the paper relating to my own affairs, and the Sunnud for the Subadarry to get it signed, but that day the Colonel would not consent to it, and therefore I deferred it.

81.e *Copy of a Letter from the* Nabob *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

THE state of affairs here is as follows. You were pleased to intimate to me, that I should examine the accounts of Mharajah Ramnarain; in consequence of which, I appointed Mharajah Rajebullub to examine the said accounts in the presence of Colonel Coote; and sent word to Mharajah Ramnarain of the resolutions taken by the Council. He replied, that he would consider upon it, and give an answer, and for four or five days Mharajah Rajebullub constantly attended the Colonel, in order to examine the papers. Yesterday Ramnarain made this answer to the Colonel; "I will not oppose the order of the Council, and now that ye say the Nabob is my master, I will attend upon, and confer with him." Last night the Colonel came to my tent, and told me, that he had received no orders from the Council for the dismission of Ramnarain, that I might make a scrutiny into his accounts, and if he was convicted of any misconduct, and the Council's orders should authorize

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thorize it, he should be dismissed, but without this, it could, by no means, be done. And Mr. Watts came to me with Rajebullub, in the name of the Colonel, and proposed the confirmation of Comgar Cawn, with many other demands, and said several unbecoming things, which I think not fit to repeat; in fact, I have no power in any one affair of the government. . . . . The Colonel desires me to go into the Kella. How can I go to the Kella without any authority, and whilst my enemy is in full possession? When I talk of going to Moorshedabad, he replies, that Shuja Dowla is at hand, and adds, that I pay no regard to his words. I answer, "In the "name of God, in what instance have I been, "or am I deficient? Do you take the Pro- "vinces of Bengal and Bahar into your own "hands, and make me accountable for all that "I have received these seven months past." But nothing that I say is complied with. I have no reliance on any one but you, and none else can conduct my affairs. There is a just demand on Mharajah Ramnarain of large sums, on account of the last four years. If I make an inquiry into his accounts, I shall receive a large supply of money. Notwithstanding this, I remain here wearied out, and involved in vexations. The army murmurs on account of the dearness of grain, and the subjects are reduced, by their disorders, to the most fatal extremities. The wretch sits here, fomenting dissentions, and giving my life and fortune a prey to my Seapoys. For God's sake, let not go my hand in the middle of the Sea, but assist me as you have always done, and write in the most pressing terms to the Colonel, and send an order of the Council, that he oppose not the removal of the Naib of this place,

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place, and leave the country now in my hands. After this, I will finish all the accounts.

SI. *Extract of a Letter from the* Select Committee (*Meſſ.* Van Sittart, Amyatt, Ellis, *and* Sumner) *to Colonel* Coote.

18 June 1761.

WE hope our advice has had ſome effects upon Ramnarain; it ſeems, however, by his delays in ſettling accounts, upon the footing directed in our joint letter to yourſelf and Mr. M'Guire, dated the ſeventeenth of laſt month, that he is endeavouring, by evading the delivery of his accounts, to preſerve his own authority over the Subahſhip, and prevent the Nabob collecting any money. It is neither equitable nor expedient to ſuffer any more of the revenues to be loſt; but while the old accounts are under examination, let the Nabob place his own people to collect all the growing rents, and to call the Zemindars to account for their ballance, and let Ramnarain's power be ſuſpended until his accounts are ſettled, and a computation of the rents tranſmitted us, with the Nabob's propoſals, for our determination, as deſired in our before-mentioned letter.

The ſpeedy execution of this is the more neceſſary, as our only dependence, for ſupplying the army with money, is from the Nabob's ballance of about eight lacks, which we have deſired him to pay to the Chief and Council at Patna, but which, in his letter to the Preſident, received laſt night, he ſays, it is impoſſible for him to do, nor, indeed, to pay his own troops, until his Amuldars are put in poſſeſſion of the growing revenues,

* *N. B.* Meſ. Amyatt and Ellis diſſented to this letter.

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venues, and he is fully supported in calling Ramnarain to an account of his administration, as well as collecting the ballance due from the Zemindars. He adds, in the same letter, "I have "not now the power of collecting a single rupee."

In another letter, received at the same time, and of which inclosed is a copy, he speaks of an application made to him, in behalf of Comgar Cawn, and other recommendations of the same nature; he complains, of the unbecoming manner in which these applications have been made, and represents the bad effects such protections have upon his authority. As he leaves us in the uncontrouled possession of the countries made over to the Company, so neither ought we to interfere in his disposition of those remaining under his jurisdiction, nor, indeed, is it consistent with the treaty subsisting between the Nabob and the Company, or the good government of the country. You will be pleased to let the Nabob settle all the affairs of his dependence as he thinks fit, and only grant him, upon his application, such military assistance as he may require, and the state of our army permit.

SIG.——*Copy of a Letter from the* Nabob *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

Dated 16 June 1761.

SInce the arrival of Colonel Coote, agreeably to your directions, esteeming his will worthy of my principal attention, and regarding our mutual friendship, I have never been deficient in acting agreeably thereto. After his arrival here, he spoke to me, in the following manner, concerning the king's affairs, "That as long as he "should remain here, I should consent to allow "him

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" him a lack of rupees monthly for his expences; " and that, when he should go to Delly, I should " consent to dismiss him with twelve lacks of " rupees, and a few troops." These articles, for the Colonel's satisfaction, I was under a necessity of consenting to, and I went to his Majesty, and acquainted him, that I would be answerable for these conditions; but he would not consent to it. Afterwards, the Colonel directed me to pay him, beside what I before gave him, fifty thousand rupees. Agreeable, therefore, to the Colonel's desire, I gave him the said sum, by the means of Mharajah Ramnarain, besides what I paid before. His Majesty made no stay here, but determined to proceed to Delly, and is now on his march that way. When his Majesty was departing, I spoke to the Colonel concerning the obtaining of the Sunnuds; but he was not satisfied, and forbid me. I was under a necessity of acquiescing in his pleasure, and deferred it, nor mentioned it again. Roythitabroy, who was appointed for the negotiation of affairs at his Majesty's court, always endeavours to throw things into confusion; I frequently desired the Colonel to dismiss him as an incendiary, and appoint another in his place; but he would not listen to it. Ever since the Colonel came here to this time, I have regarded what he said and directed, as of the greatest importance, and have done every thing according to his will. In order to gain his friendship, I have looked upon every thing he said as of the greatest consequence, making it a principal point to establish a friendship between us, and to gain his affection. According to the rules of friendship, I have observed all the customs and forms in entertainments of eating, and reciprocal visits more attentively, and more heartily with him than I ever did with any other person. In every

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every respect, I have done every thing to please and satisfy him, and entered into mutual engagements with him; notwithstanding which behaviour, he has not consented to a single thing that I have requested of him. Agreeable to what you wrote to me formerly, I concerning Mharajah Ramnarain's affairs, I spoke to the Colonel, and, at his recommendation, appointed Mharajah Rajebullub to examine the accounts. Golaum Aly Cawn, and the said Mharajah, went backwards and forwards to the Kella, for fifteen or sixteen days together, but Ramnarain neither gave them a single paper, nor a writer to attend them. Afterwards the Colonel came, and said to me "We "Europeans do not understand the country ac"counts, I will send Mharajah Ramnarain to "you, he shall not be dismissed, but you may "examine his accounts yourself." This I would not consent to; nevertheless, the next day, he sent him to me, contrary to my will, with Mr. Watts. Since that day to the present moment, he (Ramnarain) protracts the time in going backwards and forwards, and fixing the time for preparing his papers; but he has not produced a single paper, nor paid a single cowry, nor delivered over the charge of a rupee's worth of the country. Though I have complained, no one would listen to me, nor give me any redress. Ever since my arrival here, the English Seapoys have been stationed at the gates of the city, and would not permit my people to pass and repass. Mr. M'Gwire being somewhat indisposed I went to see him at the Factory, and from thence I went to the Colonel, and sat down and conversed with him. He desired, that, on tuesday the twelfth of Zeccada, I would go into the Kella, and, on friday the fifteenth, cause the Coolbah to be read, and Siccas struck in the name of his Majesty.

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Majesty. This I agreed to, and returned home. When the officers of my troops heard, that I was going into the Kella, they represented, that they should have frequent occasion to come to me, in order to lay their requests and petitions before me, and that till the Seapoys, &c. were taken off, they could not pass and repass without interruption; that when Meer Mahumed Jaffier Aly Cawn and Nasir-ol-moolk, deceased, resided in the Kella, the Seapoy guards were not upon the gates; and that, till they were taken off, they should not be able to pass. Considering, therefore, that the Seapoys were men of low disposition, frequently opposing men of credit in passing, and presenting their pieces to them, and that many of my people were proud and haughty, for that disputes might arise, and disturbances be created, I therefore wrote a letter to the Colonel, requesting, that he would take off the Seapoys from the gates, and that then I will go to the Kella. Upon the receipt of this letter, which contained no more than what I have here mentioned, the Colonel was very angry, and flew into such a passion, that he said, he would send for the King again, and told Golaum Aly Cawn, who was then present, that he would have no farther intercourse with me, that he would not take the guards off the gates, and that I might send troops to drive them off. Since the day the Colonel arrived here, he has declared to me, that I must comply with every thing that he shall recommend; and, accordingly, he has since told me in person, and by messages brought by Mr. Watts, and Shoik Oumaul, that I must appoint Nundcoman to the Fougedaree of Hoogly, give the government of Poornea to the son of Ooly Cooly Cawn, restore Mazuffer Aly who plundered Nasir-ol-moolk's jewels to the amount

amount of eight lacks of rupees) to the Zemindaree of Carrackpoor, restore Coongar Cawn to the Zemindaree of Mey, and regulate the Zemindarees of Raudshay and Dinagepoor, according to his pleasure. Though I desired the Colonel to appoint a Muttasuddy to examine the accounts of my eight months government, and set me free, he would not listen to it. All my hopes and reliance is on your friendship and attachment to your engagements. This is the only consolation I have under my present afflictions. It is the dependance I have on your words that keeps me alive. Without this it is impossible to survive them. My hopes were from the revenues of this Province to pay my debt to the Company, and reduce the number of my forces; but nothing is yet done. I apprehend the Seapoys will assemble, as in Meer Jaffier Aly Cawn's time, and put my life in danger, and bring shame and dishonour upon my family. In the eight months of my government, I have scarce had leisure to drink a little water, and have not had a minute's time to eat or enjoy sleep. The four months, that I have been here involved in troubles, I have not enjoyed the least happiness, except in the confidence I have of your friendship. My shame and dishonour are compleated, and I have no one to complain to but you. I hope, you will speedily write me, in what manner I can extricate myself from these difficulties, and establish my credit and reputation. Every particular of what I have now wrote has befallen me; God is my witness, and Mr. M'Gwire is acquainted with every circumstance. I am sorry that you, who are my patron and the partaker of my afflictions, should at this time be at such a distance, and that so much time should be taken up in writing and receiving letters; the rains are come, and

and the Seapoys wages daily encrease. The affairs of the country fall every day into greater confusion, and every thing contributes to make my life a burthen to me. My hopes are in your favour, for GOD's sake make no delay; if you do, my affairs are utterly ruined. Now this remains, that you, who are concerned in my welfare, come here yourself, or send for me to relate my sorrows to you.

(In the Nabob's own hand.)

All affairs here are at an end, and the ruinous situation of my affairs at this place has rendered my case desperate. I have wrote to you every particular, and hope from your benevolence that you will consider every syllable, and speedily redress my complaint.

SIR—*A Copy of a Letter from the* Nabob *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

Dated 17 June 1761.

YEsterday I sent you, by the means of Mr. M'Gwire, a letter containing all the news, the contents of which you will understand. Last night, Colonel Coote made an entertainment for the Dutch, and was making merry. His guards were stationed all round the Kella. About twelve at night, Mharajah Ramnarain collected his people together, and sent word to the Colonel, that I had got my troops in readiness to attack the Kella in the morning, and that I would spare neither of them. The Colonel, being deceived by the snare, got his people ready. My Hircarahs brought me intelligence of it, but I gave no credit to it. This morning, Mr. Watts entered my private apartment, which is near the Zunana, calling out, where is the Nabob? and then stopped. After him Colonel Coote, in a great passion,

ſion, with his horſemen, Peons, Seapoys, and others, with a cocked piſtol in each hand, came ſwearing into my tent. It ſo happened, that I was aſleep in the Zunana, and none of my guards were preſent. How ſhall I expreſs the unbecoming manner, in which the Colonel went about, from tent to tent, with thirty-five horſemen, and two hundred Seapoys, calling out, where is the Nabob? He left ſome of his people in the Zunana and Dewankana, and went towards the ſouth tent. The Eunuch of the Serai and Mr. Watts prevented his entering, ſaying, the Nabob is aſleep, and this is the private tent of the Zunana. The Colonel returned, and proceeded through my whole army, and, ſeeing every one without arms, or any preparations, went back to the Kella. This baſe man is ungrateful, treacherous, and intent only on miſchief, and to ſupport ſuch a wicked man, who has not any fear of GOD, and has even forgot himſelf, is to give cauſe for continual animoſities. This you never ſuſpected. He has arrived at this pitch now, and GOD knows what lengths he will go to hereafter. In the beginning of the night, unknown to me, he ſtruck Siccas to ſhew his own zeal, and be beforehand with me, and paſſed them. At midnight, he ſet on foot this diſturbance. I appeal to your judgment, what ſhame and diſgrace the news of this event will bring upon me, in the minds of my enemies and equals from this place to the bounds of Hindoſtan. A loſs of honour is not to be retrieved. You have ſeveral times wrote me, with great aſſurances of friendſhip, that the Engliſh troops were mine, and under my command. The meaneſt wretches would not have behaved as theſe people have done. In what manner will my troops behave to me after ſeeing theſe things. Notwithſtanding all the care I have taken,

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taken, and ſtill continue to take, it is impoſſible for me to prevent this traitor from breeding diſſentions, and giving my life and honour to the winds. If you are determined to countenance him my buſineſs is at an end; you may then inveſt him with the Subaſhip, and I ſhall be contented with the continuance of your friendſhip alone. If you approve of continuing me in the Subaſhip, ſend orders without delay for his diſmiſſion, and an enquiry into his accounts. There is great danger in delay, and it will tend to my detriment. If this traitor is allowed, the leaſt occaſion or opportunity, like a ſnake half killed, he will never leave off his venom or inveteracy, but will throw every thing into confuſion, and then all your endeavours will prove ineffectual; there is an end to every thing. It is now the time to give me a definitive anſwer, and to ſend expreſs orders upon this ſubject to the gentlemen, who have been, and are the dupes of his craft and deceit. . . . As it was incumbent upon me, I have now told you every thing; the reſt I leave to you and your reſolutions.

SIR——*Copy of a Letter from Mr.* M'Gwire *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

Dated 17 June 1761.

THIS morning I forwarded you a letter received laſt night from his Excellency, and this will incloſe another, at which your ſurprize will not be greater than mine was, when the Nabob ſent me advice of the treatment he met with this morning from the Colonel. In my letter of yeſterday, I offered it as my opinion, either to immediately have Ramnarain diſmiſſed, or come yourſelf to ſettle matters here, otherwiſe the poor Nabob muſt fall. I have not heard any

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thing from the Colonel concerning this affair, or of his motives, farther than, that he expreſſed himſelf yeſterday diſſatisfied with the Nabob for ſending him word, that he would not coin the Siccas, or read the Cutba, till the guards were taken off the city gates. But, no doubt, he will write the account of his proceedings, and give his reaſons for his conduct. I foreſaw, in ſome degree, the bad conſequences of giving ſuch ample power to your commanders in chief. Few men can brook the loſing any part of the authority wherewith they are veſted, and fewer ſtill who can ſupport that authority with moderation. If you cannot come yourſelf, as I find the gentlemen at Madras will not ſend the regiment, have not you the power to recall him, and confine the Major to military operations only? I am perſuaded, this Gentoo Rajah has laid a trap, into which the Colonel fell, by raiſing a report, that the Nabob intended to attack the city laſt night. However, when the Colonel arrived at his tents this morning, there was not even his cuſtomary body-guard there; and as there were not the leaſt grounds or appearances of hoſtilities on his Excellency's part, the engagement is deferred till another opportunity. I have ſent the Nabob word to bear with this treatment for a few days longer till your anſwer arrives, and not to take any haſty determination thereon, that you will certainly bear him through; but he apprehends daily inſults from his own people, now they find he is inſulted publicly by the Engliſh, by whom they were before kept in ſome awe. If you find yourſelf unable to carry the Nabob through his preſent difficulties, let the Rajah be declared Subah, and let this miſerable great man return inglorious, diſgraced, and deſpiſed to Moorſhedabad, there to enjoy a ſingle day of quiet; to

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which he has been an entire stranger ever since his arrival here.

I am told, the Rajah struck Siccas yesterday in the mint; if so, (and I esteem my authority good) it is plain, that he is certain of succeeding in the government of this place; for he had not permission from the Nabob to act in this manner.

His Excellency's Moonshy is just arrived; I asked him the purport of the letter he wrote the Colonel; he says, it amounted to this, "That "he would come into the Kella agreeable to ap- "pointment, but that his Jemmadars would not "acquiesce thereto, until our guards were taken "off one of the city gates, that they might have "liberty to enter and go out when they thought "proper, that this being granted he would enter "the Kella, and then and there strike the Siccas, "and read the Cutba." But as the Nabob will transmit you a copy of the letter, I refer you to it.

I will now suppose the Nabob to have refused complying with striking the Siccas, and reading the Cutba, as alledged against him, (but before this comes to hand, you will know to the contrary, by his having previous to this sent orders to Moorshedabad, Decca, &c. to strike the Siccas on the twenty-fifth of this moon, being a lucky day, and of these his intentions he has wrote to the King) was this a reason for the Colonel's going armed to his tent? Or has he authority to act in this manner unnoticed? Should he not have complained of the Nabob's having broke his promise to him, that the board might take notice of his behaviour? May not the Nabob with justice assert, that he has purchased a stick to break his own head? In short, Sir, it appears plainly to me, that the board meets with more insults from this step than the Nabob, who threw himself on them for protection.

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Had the Nabob formed the design of forcibly taking poſſeſſion of the city, could we not have had Hircarahs to have given the earlieſt intimations of his firſt motions to this proceeding, without the Colonel's taking it for granted, and going with two companies of Seapoys, and a troop of horſe to the Nabob's tents, two gurries before the day broke?

The Nabob continues to requeſt you will give his letters a careful peruſal, without ſhewing them to your Moonſhy.

SIR—*Copy of a Letter from Mr.* M'Guire *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

Dated 18 June 1761.

I Wrote you laſt night to incloſe an account from his Excellency, ſetting forth the ſituation he was in, and the conduct of the Colonel towards him. This evening I was favoured with a viſit from the Colonel, in which he gave me the whole account, declaring, that the Nabob took every ſtep he could think of to render the ſervices he propoſed doing him of no effect; that they had agreed, at their laſt meeting, to ſtrike the Siccas, and read the Cutba as to-morrow; that the Nabob was to come into the city, and live there, and that he propoſed doing every thing the Nabob could wiſh to render him eaſy, and in conſequence of this agreement, he as well as the Nabob had wrote circular letters of their intentions; that he was ſurprized, inſtead of finding the Nabob reſolute in this agreement, to receive a letter from him, ſetting forth, he would not come into the city till he had taken off the Seapoy guards; and, about the ſame time, he received intelligence, that his Excellency had a conſultation with his Jemmadars, and that he had farther

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farther reaſons to believe he intended to raiſe his forces, and attack the city, that he had taken the neceſſary precautions, the night before, to prevent any ſuch deſign taking place, and in the morning went himſelf to ſee the Nabob (taking with him his troop) to let him and his forces know that he was not to be terrified. I obſerved to him, that the Nabob intended to keep to his agreement, but his Jemmadars were averſe to it, unleſs they might come in and go out when they thought proper. He replied, he was ſo far from hindering them, that he had conſented to put ſome of the Nabob's people Chokeys on the gate, together with his own; that the intention of keeping thoſe Chokeys there, was to keep out the rabble of his army. To-morrow was the day fixed upon for ſtriking the Siccas; and whilſt the Colonel remained here, Mr. Watts arrived with a meſſage from the Nabob, to whom I underſtand the Colonel ſent him, with ſome terms of accommodation, as I imagine; for, after a private conference in my chamber, he told him, when he came out, to return to the Nabob, and know if he would ſtrike the Siccas to-morrow. Here you have all I know of the matter.

S.1.1 — *Copy of a Letter from the* Nabob *to Colonel* Coote.

15 June 1761.

IT was agreed, that on tueſday, the twelfth of the monſh Zeccada, I ſhould enter the Kella, and publiſh, with your concurrence, the Cutba and Siccas, in the name of his ſacred and high Majeſty. Conformably thereto, I was reſolved upon going to the Kella. The Riſſaladars and Jemmadars with me, hearing of this, repreſented to me, that from the continuance of the guards of

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Seapoys at the gates of the city, their paſſing and repaſſing would be obſtructed; that, in the time of the Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, and the Nabob Naſir-ool-moolk deceaſed, it never happened, that Telingas had the guard of the gates of the city; and that till thoſe guards were taken off they would not go. For this reaſon I trouble you, that it is neceſſary to take off the Telingas from the gates of the city, that I may go to the Kella, and attend with you to the publication of the Cutba and Siccas, and theſe people as they deſire may have free ingreſs and egreſs to and from me.

T. 1.— *The following is a Copy of a Letter delivered into* Council *the twenty-ſixth of* June.

GENTLEMEN,

IT is with the utmoſt concern I lay before you two letters received laſt night from the Nabob, containing a detail of ſome late occurrences at Patna, which ſerve to ſhew how much the preſent happy tranquillity of theſe Provinces is threatened by the effects of thoſe violent prejudices, which were taken up ſoon after the late Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn reſigned his government, and have been ſo induſtriouſly propagated ever ſince.

The urgency of the preſent circumſtances will not allow me time to enter into a detail of the ſeveral facts, which, when collected, will ſhew the truth of what I have above aſſerted. Such a detail ſhall be my next work, and I will engage to prove, that thoſe prejudices are the foundation of the preſent dangers. But firſt, let us endeavour, as far as in us lies, to remedy the diſorder, and guard againſt theſe dangers.

I ſay

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I ſay as far as in us lies, becauſe our future orders may perhaps be as little regarded as our paſt. If the officers commanding our troops had attended to the inſtructions we ſent them, the diſputes at Patna had not continued till this time, nor been carried to ſo dangerous a length.

Ramnarain, the Naib or deputy of that Province, has been ever remarkable for his capacity in the arts and intrigues of this country. He ſoon diſcovered, how many had taken up prejudices againſt the preſent Nabob Coſſim Aly Cawn, and who they were. He had a long account to ſettle of his three or four years adminiſtration, and ſought, with too much ſucceſs, to engage ſuch as he knew to be already biaſſed againſt the Nabob, to ſupport him in refuſing or evading the rendering an account of his adminiſtration.

Compleat tranſlations of the Nabob's two letters ſhall be laid before you at our next meeting. As yet, they have paſſed under no eyes but my own, becauſe I think it highly neceſſary we ſhould conceal, as much as poſſible, from the world, the extreme ill uſage which the Nabob has received. Thanks to his moderation, and his entire dependance on our juſtice and good faith, the open hoſtilities, which ſeem to have been intended, were, for that time, avoided. What he may have been forced to, before now, is a ſubject in my mind of much uneaſineſs.

The moſt material circumſtances of the Nabob's letter are theſe following. (Here follows a recital of them agreeably to the contents of the letter already entered.)

This, gentlemen, is the ſubſtance of the Nabob's letter, dated the ſixteenth of June. The other of the ſeventeenth, contains the relation of a fact yet more ſurprizing and alarming. (Here

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follows the account of Colonel Coote's behaviour in the Nabob's camp.)

This, gentlemen, is the fact as related in the Nabob's second letter, to which he adds, a strong representation of the ill effects, which such an affront put upon him, must have on his reputation in all parts of India, and even among his own people, and he concludes with requiring justice to be done him.

No account of this affair is yet arrived from the Colonel, but along with the Nabob's letters I received one from Mr. M'Gwire, dated the seventeenth, and another of the eighteenth is just come to hand. Copies of such parts of these as relate to this affair I have annexed hereunto; and as I regard that gentleman always as a member of the Board, and of the Select Committee, I think some regard is to be had to his opinion upon the state of affairs on the spot where he is, notwithstanding the Colonel's refusal to be guided by, or even to reply to the instructions we addressed to him, and Mr. M'Gwire jointly.

That gentleman has, however, transmitted me from time to time an account of what has been passing at Patna, and observed to me, in two or three different letters, that he suspected from the many unreasonable applications made to the Nabob, of a nature not to be complied with, and from other circumstances, that there was a settled and fixed design of bringing things to an extremity. I must own, that some of the measures taken here, and which shall be particularized in the narrative I propose to lay before you, seemed to favour such an opinion; yet I could never bring myself to believe, that prejudice could hurry men so far, as to make them careless of the present happy tranquillity of these Provinces in general, and of the Company's valuable possessions, and desirous

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desirous of putting these blessings, and the lives of thousands to risk, by opening a scene of fresh troubles, which could not fail to succeed the going to war with the Nabob without reason, and without provision made for the better regulation of the government after his death, or expulsion, supposing one of these to be the consequence of our taking up arms against him, as it probably would. Besides these reflections, another consideration prevented my giving credit to there being really such a design, and which indeed would have led me to hold the design and the authors in contempt, if I could have persuaded myself such did exist; I mean the repeated orders of the Select Committee to the commanding officer of the army to support and assist the Nabob, which I thought sufficient to prevent any bad effects. But this affair is grown more serious than I could have imagined.

When I consider the frequent representations made to us, both by Major Carnac and Colonel Coote, of the little services to be expected from the Nabob's troops; that he was incapable, even of calling an ordinary Zemindar to an account, without our assistance; when I consider also, that not only the city of Patna, but all the rest of the frontiers of the Nabob's dominions are, and have been defended by our troops, as Beerboom, Midnapoor, and Chittagong. I find it almost impossible to persuade myself, the Colonel could really think the Nabob had a design to assault the city; and if he could entertain such a thought, he should have let the Nabob begin the assault, in which he could not possibly have succeeded, and then the whole world would have been convinced that the Nabob was in the wrong.

But whatever might have been the Colonel's design, his sally, as related in the Nabob's second letter, was so conducted, as might naturally have been expected

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expected to produce some disturbance in the Nabob's camp, and of that the immediate consequence would have been a general engagement between two armies, which I have always regarded as acting in concert, as strict friends and allies. I have said, gentlemen, and I repeat it, that it was owing to the Nabob's moderation, and his entire confidence in our justice and good faith, that hostilities did not immediately follow this affront put on him. But, as I am doubtful what farther measures may have been pursued to this time:

I do therefore, in the first place, solemnly protest against those whom it may concern, for all the bad consequences that may ensue before the directions of the Board hereupon can reach the army, and declare myself not accountable for the blood that may be spilt, the disturbances that may lay waste the country, and the losses which the Company in particular may sustain, in their possessions, by any measures which may be pursued in contradiction to the orders of the Select Committee, corroborated and confirmed by repeated letters from myself to the commanders of our army, to whom, as well as to the Nabob, I have continually recommended reciprocal respect and friendship, and moderation in all differences of opinion.

And, in the next place, I do propose, and most strenuously recommend to the Board, to come to such resolutions as may best tend to prevent any dangers of this unexpected kind in future, and particularly, that the charge of the army may be given to some officers who will obey our orders.

The foregoing representation of Colonel Coote's sally to the Nabob's camp, is such as was immediately

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diately transmitted by the Nabob. It is just to insert the Colonel's own account of it.

V. 1.—*Copy of a Letter from Colonel* Coote *to Mr.* Van Sittart.

Dated 19 June 1761.

IN the postscript to my letter of the thirteenth instant, I acquainted you of the Nabob's having been with me, and by the conversation I had with him, Rajebullub, and Golam Aly Cawn that day, I had all the reason to expect, that I should soon have his affairs settled to the satisfaction of every body, and my own credit. I likewise informed you, of his agreeing to proclaim the King this day. He asked me, whether it would not be proper for him to come into the Kella on this occasion? I told him, it was a very proper step, and what I had long wished for, as by that means I could be oftener with him than my health would permit me now. Upon which he said, he would come in on Wednesday the seventeenth, and asked me, if I would pay him a visit that day upon his arrival? I replied, that I would with pleasure, and that I would likewise wait on him the morning he intended proclaiming the King, receive a dress from him, and proceed in publick with him to the Mosque; and told him, that as I had wrote to all the Zemindars of the country to come in, and settle their accounts with him, and had promised to write to the King by his Vackeel, I thought the more publick we appeared together, it would have the greater weight in transacting his affairs; on this occasion, the Nabob and his attendants abovementioned expressed their satisfaction in the strongest terms.

He then asked me, to have our Seapoys taken off the gates of the city; in answer, I told him, it

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it surprized me, he should still harp on that subject, as I had before given him sufficient reasons of their utility, and added, that those Seapoys were a part of his army, and under the command of Captain Robertson, and were therefore ready to obey his orders; that the directions I had given Captain Robertson were, that they should stop no body belonging to the Nabob from passing and repassing into the city; only not to deliver the gates to an armed force without my order, and to keep their post quiet; that he had himself often declared he had no command over his own forces, and that it was very well known, that those very forces had formerly an intention (and were near putting it into execution) to plunder the city; that, at this particular time, I had but very few troops with me, and therefore for his security, as well as my own, I could not be too much on my guard. He likewise asked me, if he should bring in some of his principal people to reside with him? I replied, by all means; they then took their leave seemingly very well satisfied.

I heard nothing from him afterward till the fifteenth at night, when he sent me, by one of his Chubdars, a letter (a copy of which I now inclose you, together with others relative to the transactions here) requiring an immediate answer. The method of his sending the letter, and the purport of it surprized me not a little; and I sent for Golam Aly Cawn, who was then in the house, to come to my room, and asked him, if he knew the purport of the letter I had just received from the Nabob; he said, that before he left the Durbar he heard there was a letter to be sent, and by what he could find, he thought a very improper one after what had passed at our last meeting, and wished, that the Nabob had better advisers; I told him, I wished so too, and that I thought it must appear very

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very odd, after I had wrote that morning to the King, and that I had sent circular letters to the Zemindars to come, and settle their accounts with him as Subah, to have the ceremony of proclaiming the King performed in the capital of the Province by his servant a Gentoo, whilst he a Mussulman remained in his camp in the neighbourhood. This affair seemed to me to be of such consequence, that I desired to have nothing more to do with messages, but desired to see him himself next day. When I was informed, that the Nabob would not come, and by intelligence, that he had most of his Jemmadars in consultation with him, I at night sent to Captain Robertson to keep a good look out, and see that no mischief was done; and I likewise sent Hircarahs into his camp to observe what passed, and bring me an account. At midnight I was acquainted, that their guards were doubled, and a great stir among them. This I find by the following expression of Golam Aly Cawn was partly occasioned by Coja Gregory, which he has since dropped in company with Mr. Watts, that he was not afraid to tell Coja Gregory, at the time he was ordering it, that it would be productive of no good, and must give offence to the Colonel. Next morning, in order to be better acquainted how things went, I thought it necessary to go with my usual attendants to the Nabob's tent, to speak with him about those matters, and finding he was not up I departed; leaving Mr. Watts with him to let him know, how sensible I was of his ill treatment, having always acted the friendly part by him, and that by these proceedings he was putting it out of my power to serve him. I then took a tour round his encampment, where I found every thing wore the appearance of tranquillity.

VI. *Extract of a Letter from Colonel Coote to the Governor and Council.*

Dated 17 July 1763.

A Few hours before I left Patna, I had the honour of your letter of the twenty-sixth of June, together with copies of the Nabob's and Mr. M'Gwire's letters to the President, as also extracts of the minutes of Council.

As I have not been the first person whose actions have been condemned unheard, I therefore cannot look upon it as a particular misfortune attending me alone. The Nabob's disagreement with me on account of proclaiming the King, which seems to be the source of the indignities shewn me, I should have before now related to the Board, had I looked on it as an affair of any consequence to trouble them with; but as a common occurrence I related it in my private correspondence with Mr. Van Sittart (in my letter of the nineteenth of June, to which I beg leave to refer you) whose weight with the Nabob, as it seemed to me, might have been sufficient to settle any little points of variance. But to my great surprize, the most scandalous constructions are put upon all my actions, and the greatest falsehoods no sooner propagated than credited, which, if my word has any weight, will evidently appear by my letter beforementioned, and what follows.

On the 16th of June in the evening, having had different reports brought me concerning the Nabob's proceedings, I told Captain Eiser I intended paying him a visit next morning, to endeavour to settle matters with him, and at supper-time, desired that gentleman to order the troopers and my usual attendants to be ready a little after

after day-light. About six o'clock next morning, I set out from my quarters to the Nabob's, (which is about two coss) with about twenty-five European cavalry, and one company of Seapoys, which happened at that time to be a fewer number than usually attended me when I went upon publick visits, and I sent Mr. Watts on before to let the Nabob know, I was coming to wait on him. By the time I arrived at his tents it was near seven o'clock. The Nabob, I find, accuses me of going in a violent manner through his tents. On the contrary, the place where I alighted from my horse was near the Durbar tent, and the place where I always had alighted; and upon seeing Mr. Watts I asked him, where the Nabob was? Who replied, he was asleep in his Zunana; and as I had reason to suspect from my intelligence the last twenty-four hours that his intentions were not the best, I therefore when alighting took my pistols out of my holsters for my own security, (as I seldom ride with a sword) but declare they were not cocked; and I affirm, that I went no farther than the Durbar tent, where I sat down for a little time; still finding the Nabob did not come, I desired Captain Eiser to order two troopers to see, that no body of troops came in at the back part of the tent; and I now declare, that no one was placed on his Zunana. As the Nabob did not come, I went away, and for the rest of this affair, I refer you to my letter to the President.

The Nabob farther accuses me, of having endeavoured to oblige him to make up matters with Cossim Cawn and the Carrickpoor Rajah. I declare, I never mentioned them to him in any other light than that, if he could not by any means raise them, to make up matters with them; and that I particularly refused seeing their Vackeels,

and

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and never had any correſpondence with them but by two letters, which I wrote them by the Nabob's deſire, copies of which have been tranſmitted to the Preſident..... With regard to the Dinagepoor people, I was petitioned by the ſons of the late Rajah (whoſe country had been taken from them by the Nabob, after taking a Nuzzur of ten lacks of rupees) requeſting, that I would ſpeak to the Nabob in their behalf, and deliver their petition to him, which was all the part I acted in that affair..... With reſpect to the Rajah of Radſhay, Mr. Batſon deſired I would endeavour to ſerve him with the Nabob, as he had been fleeced by the Royroyan, and his country taken from him. I accordingly repreſented it to him, ſince which repreſentation that poor unhappy man (tho' ſeventy years of age) has been tied up by the heels, and flogged with rattans almoſt to death. This ſhocking piece of cruelty not being thought ſufficient, he was put in irons, and remained in that ſituation till Mr. Batſon, through his humanity, had with difficulty by his intereſt got him freed from his ſhackles, but the poor old man ſtill continues a priſoner. As to Myrza Killy Aly, I never mentioned him to the Nabob, nor has any body done it by any authority from me. The only perſon, whoſe intereſt I urged, was the unhappy brother of Meer Jaffier, with whom I was formerly acquainted, and whom I found on my journey at Patna at Rajemaul ſtarving with a large family. I begged the Nabob to do ſomething for him; and he ordered him one thouſand rupees *per* month, chiefly through the interceſſion of Rajebullub, who, by my requeſt, uſed his intereſt on that occaſion; but that poor man has not profited by this in the leaſt, having hitherto not received a ſingle rupee..... As there was a report ſpread, that the Fougedar of Hougly was to be turned

out,

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out, Mr. Watts mentioned, in a private discourse with Rajebullub, that if the Nabob would give that post to Nundcomar, it might be a means of obliging some gentlemen, whose friendship might be acceptable to him; and this was really hinted from a friendly view towards the Nabob.

The public character I was in obliged me to receive petitions, and to hear the complaints of every one. I therefore could not do less than inform the Nabob of them. But since I found that any applications through me were the sure means of hurting the poor people who complained (the Nabob having declared publickly, that whoever applied to the English was not his friend) I afterwards prevented their troubling me with their petitions.

XI.—*Extract of a Letter from Major* Carnac *to the* Select Committee.

Dated 16 June 1761.

YOU have not been pleased, gentlemen, to allow me to have any thing to say or do with regard to Ramnarain, but if it depended on me, I declare no consideration whatever should induce me to give my consent to removing a man, whom we are bound to maintain by engagements prior to, and consequently more obligatory than any we may have since entered into with Cossim Aly Cawn. I have had hints before with regard to this unfortunate Gentoo, to which, if I would have listened, I might probably have turned my campaign to pretty good account; but, indifferent as my circumstances are, I thank God I scorn enlarging them by any means that would not stand the most public inspection.

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X1.—*Extract of a Letter from Major* Carnac *to the* Governor *and* Council.

Dated 21 June 1761.

HIS Majeſty croſſed the Caramnaſſa this morning. He made ſuch long marches from Saceram hither, that it was impoſſible for me to keep pace with him, and I was forced to leave the army a march behind, in order to get up to him. Yeſterday evening on parting, he made me the moſt public declaration of his particular regard for me, and diſmiſſed me with every mark of honour that could poſſibly be conferred on me. The accompanying is a copy of two Arzees I preſented to him laſt night, with the anſwers he wrote in the body thereof with his own hand, in the preſence of Meſſ. Luſhington and Ironſide as well as myſelf. He has alſo wrote to you, gentlemen, with a promiſe of iſſuing out his royal Sunnud, confirming the Company in all their preſent poſſeſſions and priviledges, provided the proper Peſhcuſh be paid, and, in the ſame letter, has made you an offer of the Dewannee of Bengal, on condition of your being anſwerable for the royal revenues, of which he declares, he expects no account while Coſſim Aly Cawn has the management thereof. I do not chuſe to venture ſending you this letter, for fear it ſhould be loſt, as I have no duplicate of it, but acquaint you with the purport that you may be enabled to anſwer his Majeſty, which anſwer he deſires may be tranſmitted to him as ſoon as poſſible.

X1.—Copy

VI. —— *Copy of a Translation of an* Arzee, *wrote by Major* Carnac *to the King, with the King's Answer superscribed.*

IT is about five months since your Majesty honoured the tents of your faithful servant with your presence at Gya, and from your gracious will and pleasure, and in consequence of the address and engagements of your servant (devoted to your high and sacred court) in full confidence graced the Kella of Ayimabad. GOD is my witness, that from the commencement of my service to this time, I have never deviated, in the most minute circumstance, from the engagement of fidelity, which I made with your Majesty, but ever heartily attentive to my duty and loyal attachment, and ready to devote my life to your welfare, and regarding always the strict observance of my fidelity as my chief happiness, to the utmost of my power I have obeyed your sacred commands, and you have graciously declared, that you were pleased with the faithfulness of your servant, exalting me in honour above the clouds. Relying on that gracious disposition, which affords a shadow to the highest and the humblest of your slaves, I am in hopes that what I shall represent to you will obtain your royal approbation. For this cause your servant, who is a dependent of the English Company, humbly petitions, that your Majesty will be pleased to order, that Sunnuds be granted for all the Zemindaries and Factories of commerce, belonging to the Company in the Empire of Indostan, at Calcutta in the Subah of Bengal, and Madras, and Bombay, and the port of Surat in the districts of Deccan. In these four places, which are the principal Factories of the English Company, let the Company have the priviledge

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of a mint in each; and that a Sunnud, after the uſual form, be granted for the confirmation of the Jageers of Colonel Clive, who is one of the ſervants of the ſacred court, and the patron of this faithful ſervant, whoſe attachment and devotion is notorious to the whole Empire, which to this day he has been honoured with by the royal donations; and let your Majeſty look upon this your ſervant (who is a ſtranger in theſe regions) as one of the meaneſt of the ſervants of the Court, nor forget or blot him from your remembrance; and to the laſt breath of my life I ſhall ever pray, that the Almighty may make your Majeſty (whoſe dignity is equal to Solomon's) an honour and ornament to the throne and everlaſting Empire of India, an adminiſtrator of juſtice and equity, and a protector of the people of GOD, greater than the great King Timoor, that all the chiefs and all the inhabitants of the world may be held in obedience and fidelity by your royal clemency.

(Superſcribed by the King.)

The purport of the Arzee is fully underſtood. In conſequence of the faithful attachment of that truſty ſervant, we agree and conſent to it. Whenever the petition for it is ſent in form, and the Piſhcuſh delivered to the royal Sircar, the petitioned Sunnuds we will graciouſly grant. Beſides this, in conſideration of the ſervices of that ſervant the Dewannee of the Subah of Bengal, on condition of paying the Malguzary, (according to the former amount) and a ſuitable Piſhcuſh, ſhall be granted.

21.—— *Copy of Mr.* Van Sittart's Minute, *and the Reſolutions of the* Board *on the* Major's *Letter.*

THE Preſident cannot help obſerving on the foregoing, that inſtead of ſetting forth the attachment,

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attachment, which the English nation and the Company, have always shewn to the Mogul government, the sums they have expended, and the valour they have exerted in defeating the King's enemies, the Major's whole thoughts are employed in expressing his own services and fidelity; in consideration of which he requests, that the indulgencies therein mentioned may be granted to the Company. He has not sufficiently considered, that it is the services of the Nation and the Company that should be pleaded, and recorded on all such occasions, in order to increase their respect and reputation in foreign countries; such pleas may be used in favour of that Nation and Company in future times, when they have any thing to apply for, which is a respect that will not be paid to any personal services; and farther, that all those indulgencies, he has applied for, were ordered from the Select Committee, and indeed without such orders he could not justify the applying for any thing; yet he takes not the least notice of the Committee, nor the Governor and Council, which the President mentions as one instance among many others of the great desire the most of our military officers have to conceal from the world, that they have dependence on any civil power.

With regard to the King's offer of the Dewannee, the Board are of opinion, that were the Company to accept of it, it would only be a source of perpetual contest and ill-will with the Nabob; but least such an appointment might at any time hereafter be thought advantageous, we will for the present defer coming to any resolution thereon, and only write the King in answer, that we shall soon send our requests in form.

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A2.—— *Copy of a Letter from the* Governor *and* Council (*Meſ.* Van Sittart, Amyatt, Ellis, Sumner, *and* Smith) *to Major* Carnac.

Dated 6 July 1761.

WE have received your letter of the twenty-firſt, incloſing copy of the two requeſts you preſented to the King, with anſwers ſuperſcribed by him. Thoſe anſwers are very indeterminate, and far from expreſſing his conſent; they are indeed no way ſo favourable as we think we might have expected, conſidering the good faith, candour, and attachment we have ſhewn him in his moſt diſtreſſed circumſtances, and the ſupplies of money he has received by our influence from the Nabob.

We cannot help remarking upon the ſtile of your requeſt, as it may ſerve for your better guidance on future occaſions. You have ſaid much of your own ſervices and attachment to the King, and neglected entirely ſo fair and juſt an opportunity of ſetting forth the reputation and power of our Nation, the attachment which the Company have always ſhewn to the Mogul government, the ſums they have expended, and the blood that has been ſhed in defeating the King's enemies in different parts of India, and the particular obligations, which he in perſon owes to the government in Bengal. Such ſhould be the ſtile of all public applications to foreign Courts, in order that they may ſerve our Nation for arguments on all future occaſions.

With regard to the Dewannee of theſe Provinces, the Shah's offer is as indeterminate as his anſwers to your requeſts; and as it would be a ſource

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source of continual jealousies between the Nabob and the Company, we do not think adviseable to sue for it at this time.

B2.—— *Extract of a Letter from Major* Carnac, *to the* Governor *and* Council.

Dated 28 June 1761.

IN my last I mentioned my having a letter for you from his Majesty, relative to his confirmation of all the Company's possessions and priviledges, and containing an offer to yourselves of the Dewanee of Bengal, and my unwillingness to send a letter of such consequence by the ordinary conveyance. I have likewise several other letters for you from him, some of a public, and some of a private nature; for fear therefore any inconvenience should result from their being delayed, I shall give them in charge to Ensign Swinton, with orders to convey them to you as fast as possible, if the Colonel will give him permission. I have done every thing for the service of my masters, that the little power you were willing to invest me with would admit of my doing. I have obtained a promise from his Majesty, under his own hand, of his royal confirmation of all your possessions and priviledges, provided you pay him a proper Pishcush, as has been always customary, in return for such grants. It rests with you, whether or not you will be at the expence of procuring them; if you intend it, it is necessary you should, without loss of time, send an able and trusty Gentoo to reside as your Vackeel with the Court, and bring the business to a speedy issue.

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C2.——*Copy of a Letter from Mr.* M'Gwire *to Major* Carnac.

Dated 6 July 1761.

IN anſwer to my requeſt for leaving two hundred rank and file, excluſive of the ſick, Mr. Reed, by your directions, has acquainted me, that you have orders from the Colonel to include the ſick; and that if I ſhould ſtill be of opinion it is neceſſary to keep up that number of effective here, I muſt write to Calcutta for freſh orders, which will arrive before your departure, as you cannot execute your orders for returning in leſs than twenty days.

The Colonel, you acquainted me, has ſent orders to Saſeram for Captain Hart to return directly; and you have, as I underſtand, ſent the like to Captain Champion, from whence, it may be preſumed, they will arrive here in about ſix days: In the mean time, preparations may be made for their embarking, and what is to detain them afterwards, I am at a loſs to find out.

However, Sir, that I may execute my orders, without loſs of time, I requeſt you will deliver over the command, ordered to remain here, to Captain Corſtairs; they may be ſelected hereafter, and as his Excellency is deſirous of coming into the city, you will order the centries at the gates to be taken off.

I am farther to requeſt an old battalion may be left me, in the room of the Seapoys commanded by Captain Stibbert, as they are at preſent unfit for immediate ſervice.

C.2.a——*Copy*

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C2.a ——— *Copy of Major* Carnac's *Answer to the foregoing Letter.*

Dated 6 July 1761.

AS the Board neither have, nor indeed have the power to put me under your directions, I am not accountable to you for my proceedings here, nor are you to prescribe the time that may be requisite for getting every thing ready for transporting that part of the army which I am ready to take down with me. Of this you will allow me to be as good a judge as yourself, especially as there are two or three things to be done before we set out, which you are probably unacquainted with, both a general muster, and a general court martial to be held, which must employ a few days. You may be assured, however, no time shall be lost, as I am as impatient to get away from Patna as you can be to have me away; but, in the interim, I will deliver over the command to no one.

Coffim Aly Cawn may come into the Kella when he pleases, and I will be answerable for the security of his person, but I will not take off the guards that have been so long posted at the gates. Were that armed rabble about him to have free ingress and egress, some quarrel would inevitably happen between them and our people, which, as well as any accident happening to the city, I will endeavour to prevent during my continuance in it.

I think Captain Stibbert's battalion full good enough for any service they can be employed on at this season of the year, and as they have been all along appropriated for the use of your Factory, I shall certainly include them in the two thousand Seapoys directed to be left with you, unless I receive orders from the gentlemen below to the contrary.

D2.—*Copy*

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D2. —— *Copy of a Letter from the* Board (*Meſſ.* Van Sittart, Amyatt, Sumner, *and* Smith) *to Major* Carnac. *

14 July 1761.

WE have received a letter from Mr. M'Gwire, dated the ſixth inſtant, accompanied with a copy of your letter to him of the ſame date.

We deſire to know, by what authority you have kept the command of the army at Patna, becauſe either in Colonel Coote or you there is a manifeſt contempt of our orders of the twenty-ſixth ult.; which directed, that both you gentlemen ſhould return to Calcutta, and that the troops ſhould be left under the command of Captain Carſtairs, to follow the inſtructions of Mr. M'Gwire. The muſtering the army, or holding a court martial, are not ſufficient reaſons, as both thoſe ſervices might be performed in Calcutta. We would aſk you farther, whether it is poſſible, that any officer receiving thoſe orders, for leaving two hundred Europeans and two thouſand Seapoys, to aſſiſt the Nabob in ſettling the affairs at Patna, can, without a manifeſt intention of counteracting our determination, underſtand, that the ſick ſhall be included amongſt the Europeans, and the Seapoys to be left on ſervice, to be the worſt of the army.

It is true, that we ſhould avoid, as much as poſſible, putting any officer, entitled to a ſeat at the Board in military affairs, under the orders of any member of that Board, who, on ſuch occaſions, would ſit below him; and this regard for your rank was one reaſon among others, why we did not propoſe to you to remain at Patna, under the orders of Mr. M'Gwire; however, Sir, that you

* *N. B.* Mr. Amyatt did not ſign this letter.

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you may not think that rule invariable, you will give me leave to inform you, that we can, when the Company's service requires it, oblige any officer in their service to act under the directions of their governors or factors at any of their settlements.

Neither is it possible the service can be well conducted on the independent footing which you are pleased to claim; witness your little regard to the representations of Mr. M'Gwire, with respect to the choice of the troops to be left at Patna, as beforementioned, although the Company's Factory and effects there, as well as the execution of the service for which these troops are to be left, is committed to the charge of that gentleman.

To put an end to these disputes we direct, that on the receipt of this letter you give over the command of the army to Captain Carstairs, with orders to follow the directions of Mr. M'Gwire, to whom we have given the necessary instructions, concerning the draughting of the troops to be kept at Patna, and the embarkation of the rest for Calcutta.

And you will repair to Calcutta yourself with all convenient speed.

E2.— *Extract of a Letter from Major* Carnac *to the* Governor *and* Council.

Dated 7 July 1761.

IN consequence of an order from Colonel Coote I left the detachment, with which I had the honour to escort his Majesty, at Sasaram the thirtieth of June, and arrived here the third of July, on which the Colonel resolved to return to Calcutta, and was preparing to set out on the morning of the fifth. In the interim, he received a letter from the

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the Board, which only ſerved to confirm him in his reſolution, and he gave me directions to execute their orders, which I ſhall do with the utmoſt expedition, being as averſe as the Colonel from having any hand in the buſineſs that is likely to be carried on. I eſteem myſelf extremely happy in being removed from the command of the army, as I could not have ſuffered it, whilſt I was at the head thereof, to be employed on the purpoſes for which I find it is intended, without a direct breach of the declarations I have formerly made to you in regard to Ramnarain. I cannot help, on this occaſion, laying before you two paragraphs, the one extracted from your letter to me of the ninth of February, viz.

" We obſerve, when Colonel Caillaud began " his march to Patna, the beginning of the laſt " year, he had particular inſtructions from Co- " lonel Clive and the reſt of the Committee to " protect Ramnarain, in caſe of the Nabob's ma- " king any attempt againſt his perſon or honour. " We believe ſuch an injunction at this time un- " neceſſary, as the preſent Nabob ſeems to be " well inclined towards Ramnarain. But ſhould " it prove otherwiſe, it is our reſolution to have " the ſame regard to the former engagements in " his favour as was then deſigned, and therefore " direct you, in caſe of neceſſity, to protect Ram- " narain againſt all violence and injuſtice that may " be offered to his perſon, honour, or fortune." The other from your letter of the twenty-firſt of April. " We ever intended to preſerve Ramnarain " in the government of Patna, and have there- " fore recommended it to Colonel Coote to give " him his protection in all circumſtances." Pray, how are theſe reconcileable to the inſtructions addreſſed to Mr. M'Gwire, of which I have ſeen a copy, atteſted to be a true one by the Sub-ſecretary?

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tary? The force to be left at Patna is expressly said to be "only to assist the Nabob in settling "accounts with Ramnarain, and the several Ze-"mindars of the Patna Province." After which is the following article. "This you (Mr. "M'Gwire) are to do in general to the utmost "of your power, in such manner as he may ap-"ply to you. With respect to Ramnarain, it "may be necessary to be somewhat particular. "Colonel Coote is already directed to assist the "Nabob so far as to suspend him (Ramnarain) "from his government until the accounts are set-"tled, and to put the Nabob's people in possessi-"on of all the revenues. This you will conform "to, and let him be brought to an adjustment of "his accounts, by such measures as the Nabob "shall think proper." By this Ramnarain is absolutely left at the Nabob's mercy, and thrown out of that protection, which he has hitherto all along received from the English, and the continuation whereof he had an undoubted right to expect in virtue of our engagements, and in return for the attachment he has ever shewn us. The President mentions indeed his having wrote to the Nabob in his favour, which may so far have an effect, as to prevent his daring directly to get him made away with; but he may easily manage to behave to Ramnarain in such manner, as to cause him to make away with himself, which those of his cast have been frequently known to do when they have happened to be dishonoured. Be this as it will, the Mharajah is frightened beyond all expression. He was with me the day before yesterday in the evening, and represented with tears in his eyes his surprize at finding himself abandoned by those, who had so long supported him. He declared, that as the Colonel was now gone, and I to follow him in a few days,

he

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he had no longer any refuge, and muſt inevitably fall a ſacrifice to his enemies if he continued here, and therefore requeſted, with extreme earneſtneſs, that I would let him quit the country, and have him ſafely conducted over the Soane. It is hard to pronounce of any other perſon's intentions, but we may reaſonably preſume the Nabob's deſigns cannot be very good, when he endeavours to ſecure the execution of them by the force of bribes. I can produce proofs of the offer he made me, provided I would let him act as he pleaſed with regard to Ramnarain; and few people will doubt, that the notes, which Mr. Luſhington and I received from Rajebullub, and which I keep by me, were ſent by the Nabob's approbation, if not by his immediate direction. I am alſo well aſſured, very large offers have been made to the Colonel for the ſame ends, but he had too much virtue and honour to accept them.

F2. —— *Copy of the Preſident's* Minute *of the twentieth of* July 1761.

THE Preſident obſerves, that as Major Carnac has nothing to do but to obey the orders of the Board, and has no right to queſtion or diſpute upon them, his letter of the ſeventh inſtant will require no anſwer.

It ſeems however, by the tenor of many of the Major's letters, and this in particular, that he thinks himſelf the higher power, and the Board accountable to him. Upon this principle, after quoting the former orders of the Select Committee in favour of Ramnarain, he proceeds to demand, "Pray, how are theſe reconcileable to the inſtruc-"tions addreſſed the twenty-ſixth of June to Mr. "M'Guire."

Although

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Although the Board might do themselves justice upon an officer who thus forgets the respect due to them, yet we chuse rather to refer it to the determination of our honourable masters, to whom it shall at the same time be made appear, that those orders in Ramnarain's favour are now the strongest judgments that can be produced against him, as they are incontestable proofs of our desire to protect him, although the engagements, which are so much talked of, are no where to be met with. It shall be proved also, that those who profess the greatest friendship for Ramnarain, and who have permitted, if not encouraged him in refusing or evading for five months together to render any account of his administration, are in effect his greatest enemies, by putting it out of our power to protect him longer in so shameful an injustice, in which he has already been upheld until he had well near carried his point, that of bringing the Nabob to ruin by a disgraceful residence at Patna, at an immoderate expence, without any income from the Province. This, it is imagined, will hardly be said to be the intent of the supposed engagements, and therefore if any have made Ramnarain believe the meaning of them would be so far stretched, it is they that are the cause of his tears, and it is they that must answer for his unhappy death, if he should destroy himself as Major Carnac seems to apprehend. It is however more than probable, that he will not prove quite so desperate, and that when he is convinced he is not independent of the Souba of Moorshedabad, he will do what he ought to have done five months ago, that is, render to the Nabob an account of his administration, and in such case he will be treated better than he pretends to expect, better a great deal than he deserves.

He has yet hopes, that Major Carnac may keep the command of the army. A delay of twenty days, and

and Colonel Coote's coming down to Calcutta, might produce freſh orders. A man of Ramnarain's diſpoſition will conſtrue ſuch a poſſibility into a certainty, and while he can hope for ſuch a protector at the head of our army, he will continue to think he has a right to an unlimited protection, and continue to evade rendering the Nabob any accounts.

Major Carnac declares himſelf very freely on this occaſion, and gives, at the ſame time, a freſh inſtance of the reſpect he has for our authority. This paſſage of his letter of the ſeventeenth, is worthy the obſervation of the Board, as well as of our honourable maſters, who ſeldom write to their Preſident and Councils with ſo great an air of ſuperiority. "I eſteem myſelf extremely happy in be-
"ing removed from the command of the army,
"as I could not have ſuffered it, whilſt I was at the
"head thereof, to be employed on the purpoſes
"for which I find it is intended, without a direct
"breach of the declarations I have formerly made
"to you in regard to Ramnarain."

If more inſtances of a like nature are wanting, they may be ſeen in many of the Major's letters, particularly in one to the Select Committee dated the ſixteenth of June 1761. His own opinion and declarations ſhall be the rule of his actions, and ſhall ſuperſede the orders of the Board. If our declarations had merited a ſmall part of his attention, Ramnarain would not have been deceived ſo long. The repeated orders of the Select Committee for obliging him to ſettle accounts with the Nabob ſhew, that it was never our intention to ſcreen him from that juſt demand; the firſt of thoſe orders was in a letter to the Major ſo long ago as the

It is true, we did not fix a day for Ramnarain's rendering his accounts, which is a proof of the regard the Board have ſhewn him;

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and of the moderation with which they have acted throughout the whole affair.

Week after week we expected to hear, that the accounts had been laid before the Nabob. Instead of that, excuse came upon excuse. At length, on the seventeenth of May, we sent the Colonel particular directions in what manner to have the accounts settled, that Ramnarain should be regarded as the deputy of the government of Moorshebadab, that he should give the Nabob a faithful account of his outstanding balances, and the Nabob send his own people to collect them. Who would have imagined that after this, fresh evasions would be admitted for two months more, notwithstanding the Nabob's entreaties and representations of the ruin in which he must soon be involved by his useless expences.

The President wrote more than once to Ramnarain, in consequence of the resolutions of the Select Committee, that our protection would depend on his rendering a just account to the Nabob; but he is lately advised by Mr. M'Gwire, that Ramnarain, instead of collecting his revenues in a regular manner, has taken, or rather accepted, from the Zemindars large sums by way of presents, which not being brought to account, makes their balances appear much larger than they really are, and his own as much less. An unwillingness to confess this fraudulent attempt seems to be the true cause of his seeking so many shifts and evasions.

Much more shall be said on this subject hereafter, in order to prove to our honourable masters, that the resolutions lately taken by the Board (or as Major Carnac politely expresses it, the business that is likely to be carried on) were absolutely necessary for preserving the present tranquillity, for maintaining the constitution of the government of these Provinces, and fulfilling on our part the treaty subsisting

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ſiſting between the Company and the Nabob, as he has ſo faithfully done on his.

G,2.—*Extract of a Letter from Major* Carnac *to the* Governor *and* Council.

Dated 29 July 1761.

INſtead of meeting your thanks, as I imagined, for the greateſt diligence with which I executed your orders, I received to my great ſurprize a letter of cenſure from you, dated the fourteenth inſtant; but it gives me the leſs concern, as I perceive ſo few have ſubſcribed their aſſent thereto.

I have nothing farther at preſent to obſerve to you, but that you can never oblige a gentleman to do what he thinks unjuſt or unreaſonable, ſo long as he has it in his option to quit the ſervice, and it is a fortunate circumſtance we have this in our power in a part of the world, where, by reaſon of the extreme diſtance from redreſs, we are expoſed to ſuch frequent ill treatment as I in particular have experienced, and from no other demerit that I am conſcious of, but having been impolite enough to declare my diſapprobation of the late meaſures. Yet in this I am not ſingular, as I verily believe, if the whole Board could be aſſembled (as in affairs of ſuch importance it ſeems abſolutely requiſite that they ſhould, or at leaſt their opinions be collected) the half, if not the majority, would be found to concur with me in ſentiment.

H,2. —*Extract of Mr.* Van Sittart's Minute *of the third of* Auguſt 1761.

THE Preſident begs leave to obſerve on reading Major Carnac's letter, that he had mentioned to Mr. Ellis ſome time ago, that his ſign-

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ing his dissent to any letter from the Board is neither customary nor proper, that the resolutions of the majority of the Board are to be deemed the resolutions of the Board, and to be signed as such by the whole Board; that any member who dissents from the opinion of the majority is to enter his dissent and his reasons upon the body of the consultations; that the signing dissents in the letters is improper, because it makes known to the world the different opinions of the members, by which means it may be a cause of promoting a misunderstanding, and it also exposes the Board to remarks, such as Major Carnac has not failed to take the occasion of making.

The President farther observes, that he apprehends Major Carnac has not confined his remarks on the opinions of the several members of the Board to his answers to our letters, but has made them known even to the Shah; and this he takes to be the reason why the eight letters laid before the Board are addressed, some to the Council of Calcutta only, and others to the Governor and Council jointly. The King could not have addressed his letters thus from any custom or principles of his own, because in all parts of the Mogul Empire they never know or correspond with but one chief; and all other forms of government they will regard as a weakness, of which they will endeavour to take advantage, as is the Shah's design in the present case, and it is no doubt in conformity to this system of the country government, that the Company have made it a rule in all their settlements, that the country correspondence should be carried on through the channel of the Governor alone.

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I,2. — *Extract of the Tranſlation of a Letter from Major* Carnac *to the* King.

THE letters, which you ſome time ago was pleaſed to honour the Council with on certain affairs, were not ſent for want of a truſty perſon to be charged with them. On my arrival at Patna, I found Colonel Coote was preparing to ſet out for Calcutta, I therefore delivered them to him, who will carry them ſafe to the Council, who will be greatly honoured by the receipt thereof. The Colonel will, with his whole heart and ſoul, exert all his power and influence that your royal orders may be complied with, and will ſpeedily ſend moſt reſpectful Arzees in anſwer thereto from the Council. At this writing your ſervant is preparing to ſet out for Calcutta in a day or two, and by the help of GOD will, in conjunction with the Colonel, exert his utmoſt to have every thing accompliſhed agreeable to your Majeſty's orders. I will not delay to acquaint your Majeſty of what may be determined on by the Colonel's and my advice.

K,2.——*Extract of Mr.* Van Sittart's Minute *of the twenty-ſecond of* Sept. 1761.

WITH reſpect to withdrawing Major Carnac from the command of the army, reaſons were given at the time the reſolutions were taken, on the conſultation of the twenty-ninth of June, and the ſame reaſons ſtill ſubſiſt, for Major Carnac declared, no longer ago than laſt Thurſday, at the Select Committee, that he would be the judge of what orders he might receive from the Board. The Preſident obſerves, that no ſervice can be carried on where there is more than one authority. If an officer

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officer is to be judge of the orders he receives from the Board, the execution of those orders will depend on his judgment, and not on the judgment of the Board.

K, 2. a.——*Copy of Major* Carnac's *Answer to the foregoing.*

THE President has been pleased to alledge, in justification of his having recalled the Major from the command of the forces at Patna, the Major's inveterate hatred against the Nabob, and his declaration, that he would be the judge of the orders he received. For the answer to the first, he refers to his letter, which he now delivers in; and with respect to the other he begs leave to observe, that he is truly concerned orders of such a nature have been given as to oblige him to make the like declaration, and to repeat now to the Board, that he had rather incur the charge of disobedience than comply with orders, the execution whereof would bring dishonour upon the Nation, and disgrace upon himself, and the forces under his command.

L, 2.—*Extract of a Consultation of the twenty-second of* Sept. 1761.

THE President lays before the Board Mr. Ellis's instructions as follows.

Captain Carstairs, the commanding officer of the troops at Patna, is ordered to act under your directions. The reason for our keeping up so considerable a force there, is to be in readiness to assist the Nabob, in reducing to obedience and good order any of the Zemindars of his dependance, that may give him cause of complaint by with-holding their rents, fomenting disturbance, or otherwise. Our honourable masters, sensible of the impro-

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priety of protecting a ſervant againſt his maſter, and of the bad conſequences that may reſult therefrom, have cautioned us very particularly on that ſubject in their general letter. We think ſuch their caution very judicious, and that nothing but jealouſy and ill-will between the Nabob and the Company can be the conſequence of our interfering in the ſupport of any Zemindar, or other perſon holding office, grant, or authority under the government. It is expreſly contrary to our engagements with the Nabob, and beſides muſt end in the ruin of the perſon ſo protected, who preſuming on our interpoſition throws off his reſpect for his maſter, and conſequently ſhuts up all the ways of accommodation. Every one that has been admitted under ſuch protection, from the beginning of Jaffier Aly Cawn's government, may be quoted as an inſtance of the truth of this obſervation. We injoin you therefore not to interfere, directly or indirectly, in any of the affairs of the country government, or the people belonging to it; but when the Nabob applies to you for the aſſiſtance of any of our forces to be ſent to any part of the country under his juriſdiction for the execution of any ſervice, you are to take the opinion of the officer commanding our troops, whether the force under his command is ſufficient for the execution of the ſervice propoſed, or what part of it is requiſite to be ſent. If he judges this force ſufficient, you are to direct him to proceed, and do his utmoſt for the execution of the ſaid ſervice; and if the whole force is not neceſſary, to ſend ſuch a detachment as he judges ſufficient. But if the commanding officer ſhall give his opinion, that the force under his command is not ſufficient for the execution of the propoſed ſervice, then you are to tranſmit to us the moſt ſpeedy intelligence that we may ſend you a reinforcement. After the Nabob's depar-

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ture from Patna you are to give the same assistance to the Naib or deputy he may leave there for the management of the affairs of his government.

Some of the Board were of opinion, that Mr. Ellis should have the power to judge of the nature of the services, on which the Nabob might request the English troops to be employed, and, in consequence of that judgment, to comply with his request or not, upon which the question being put,

Mr. Hastings thinks he should not have the power, but represent to the Council, if he thinks the Nabob requires our troops upon any service hurtful to the English character, as he has no conception of any such service.

Mr. Smith is of the same opinion.

Major Carnac thinks, that Mr. Ellis should be a judge of the nature of the service, as well as the sufficiency or insufficiency of the force required for that service.

Mr. Amyatt thinks, that the putting our Chief at Patna with the troops committed to his charge under the orders of the Nabob is dishonourable to our masters, an indignity to the Board, and an unprecedented case until the chiefship of Mr. M'Gwire, when Mr. Amyatt dissented to it in the proceedings of the Select Committee of the eighteenth of June. The power of calling for our forces whenever and for what services he pleases, without the chief's being allowed to judge of the nature of those services, may be attended with such fatal consequences, that it would be the height of imprudence to entrust any Nabob with it, especially one, who we have too much reason to suspect, would be glad of an opportunity to make an ill use thereof in order to throw an odium upon us.

Mr. Amyatt cannot therefore subscribe to the instructions now before the Board, while they contain an article of such dangerous tendency.

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Colonel Coote is of the ſame opinion with Mr. Amyatt.

The Preſident approves of the orders as they now ſtand, being in his opinion beſt caculated to prevent diſputes, and moſt agreeable to our honourable maſters intentions.

Mr. Ellis arrived at Patna about the middle of November, juſt after the Nabob had marched from thence for the Bougepoor country.

M, 2.——*A Letter from Captain* Carſtairs *to the* Nabob.

Dated 31 Jan. 1762.

I Have received a letter from Mr. Ellis the Chief of the Factory at Patna to this purport: "That one Munſeram Hircarah, in the Per-"gunne of Arra, has ſtopped ſome opium belong-"ing to Mr. Hay, notwithſtanding there was a "Duſtuck with it, and will not let it paſs; that "I muſt therefore take him priſoner, and freeing "the opium from his hands diſpatch it forwards." Regarding your Excellency's favours, I have judged it not proper to impriſon Munſeram, but ſubmit this matter to your Excellency, and requeſt, that you will write a reprimand to the ſaid Munſeram, and command him to releaſe the opium. I requeſt a ſpeedy anſwer to this addreſs, that I may write accordingly to Mr. Ellis.

N, 2.——*From the* Nabob *to Mr.* Ellis.

Dated 22 Jan. 1762.

SOME time ago you wrote to me concerning the ill behaviour of the officers of Purnea. At this time, I am informed by a letter from Meer Sheer Aly Cawn, the Naib of Purnea, of great

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great acts of oppreſſion committed by Mr. George Gray, Chief of the Factory at Molda, of his ſeizing and impriſoning the Piſhcar of Heeramun, the Zemindar and Wadadar of Taajepoor, and ſending Seapoys and Europeans to purchaſe grain, and erect new Factories in every diſtrict of Purnea. A copy of this letter, with a letter written by that gentleman to Sheer Aly Cawn, I ſend you incloſed, that you may be informed of the particulars. Since the ties of friendſhip and alliance have been eſtabliſhed between me and the Engliſh Company, and our intereſts in this country are united, if you impriſon my people in this manner to the ruin of my lands, and the impoveriſhing of my revenues, ſuch a proceeding is very foreign from the friendſhip and good underſtanding, which ſhould ſubſiſt between us. I deſire, that you will take this affair into conſideration, and regarding our ſeveral concerns as united, direct me how I am to act, and it ſhall be done accordingly. When you have read Mr. Gray's letter pleaſe to return it.

O,2.—— *Copy of Mr.* Ellis's *Anſwer to the above.*

Dated 4 Feb. 1762.

YOUR Excellency's letter, incloſing a letter of Mr. George Gray, and the copy of one from Meer Sheer Aly Cawn, I have read with great pleaſure, and have underſtood all the particulars. I have before this repeatedly repreſented to you the complaints which have been made to me againſt the Zemindars of Purnea. Now Mr. Gray's letter has clearly proved the inſolence of the Zemindars, and the juſtice of my complaints. It is fact, that the inſolence of the Zemindars and officers in every quarter exceeds all bounds, and that the Company's buſineſs has been entirely obſtructed

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ed and ruined. It appears from Mr. Gray, that he complained to Sheer Aly Cawn twice or thrice againſt the Zemindars, but receiving no anſwer nor redreſs, he was under the neceſſity of taking ſuch meaſures. At this time, a perſon in the diſtricts of Mongheer having ſeized ſome ſalt-petre of the Company's, I have taken him priſoner, and ſent him to Calcutta. . . . . Of this I inform your Excellency. . . . . Having learnt the contents of Mr. Gray's letter, according to your orders I ſend it back incloſed.

P, 2.— *From the* Nabob *to Mr.* Ellis.*

YOUR letter I have received. You write, that "the Company's Gomaſtahs have the "free liberty of trading every where; that it is "needleſs to enumerate particulars, that you de- "ſire me to write a Perwana to Sheer Aly Cawn, "to forbid his officers to ſtop any goods of the "Gomaſtahs in Purnea."

I have juſt received intelligence, that you have ſent a large force, and carried off a collector of the government who was at Punohmahla in the diſtricts of Mongheer. If that perſon had committed any fault, it would have been proper to have informed me of it. Since my intereſts and the Company's are united, it ill became you to ſeize an officer of my government, who was entruſted with affairs of great conſequence, and then to deſire a letter to Sheer Aly Cawn. Since my ſervants are ſubjected to ſuch inſults, my writing can be of no uſe, you are the maſter. Send for any of my officers, Zemindars, Tahſeeldars, or Fougeders, where, and whomſoever you pleaſe. How

* *N. B.* The date of this letter doth not appear, but it muſt have been about the fourth or fifth of February.

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How much my government and authority are weakened by these proceedings I cannot describe.

Q,2.—*Extract of a Letter from the* Nabob *to the* President.

Received 10 Feb. 1762.

AT this time Mr. Ellis, the Chief at Patna, writes, that the Purnea and other Fougedars molest the Company's business. I have therefore wrote expressly to the Purnea Fougedar, &c. not to interrupt the Company's trade, but always to assist them. I before wrote to the Bengal Fougedars and others not to impede the Company's business in any respect, and to advise you of any thing that came before them. I am at a great distance; therefore should any thing happen, write to the Fougedars and others, and they will act as shall most tend to benefit the Company's trade and the business of my Subadarry.

R,2.—*Extract of a Paper of News sent to the* Nabob *from* Patna.

Dated 4 Feb. 1762.

FOUR gurries before night, two or three companies of Seapoys and Europeans with their baggage passed by land through the Kella by the eastern gate. GOD knows what is the design, and whither they are going. In consequence thereof Sedderam the Dewan of Goorgheen Cawn, (Coja Gregore) came to the Mharajah, and they have been sitting together for two hours in close debate upon this matter. The Mharajah has strictly enjoined Laal. . . . and Rambuksh and the other Hazarees and the Telingas (Seapoys) of Goorgheen Cawn, not to admit any European or English Sea-

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poy within the city, but to be on their guard. Conformably to the orders of the Mharajah all the Hazarees and the Seapoys of Goorgheen Cawn are on their guard.

S, 2.—*Tranſlation of a Letter from* Raja Rajebullub *to the* Nabob.

Received in Conſultation, 22 Feb. 1762.

SHujan Sing, the Naib at Mongheer, has wrote to Seedaram, the Naib of Coja Gurgheen, that ſome time ago the Seapoys ſurrounded the Fort, but not ſucceeding, they went to two gardens which are near the Fort to the northward and ſouthward, and from thence to Seetacoon (which is ſituated near the river) where they yet remain, Shujan Sing repreſented to them, that there were no Europeans in the Fort, and carried two of their own people into it, and ſhewed them every place about it, and though no Europeans were to be found, they were not ſatisfied, but wanted to ſend two ſergeants; but Shujan Sing, apprehending they might have ſome view, would not permit the ſergeants to enter the Fort. On this account I ſent to Mr. Ellis, through the means of Golaum Mahomed Cawn to know, why they acted in this improper manner; and that at ſeveral times he was diſpatching many Europeans and Seapoys from Patna towards Mongheer Fort, on which account the inhabitants were much terrified, and had run away, that thoſe who lived round Mongheer were drove to great diſtreſs, and the Zemindars ſeeing all this, were dilatory in paying the revenues, and deſiring to know what were his intentions; that it was better for him to recall his people; and if after enquiry the Europeans ſhould be in the Fort, I would get them, and deliver them up. Mr. Ellis anſwered plainly;

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ly; "'Till the ſergeants go into the Fort I will "not recall the men." I apprehend, he will ſhortly ſend more people. This I have repreſented for your information.

T,2.—*Copy of a Letter from* Mharajah Rajebullub *to the* Nabob.

Dated 26 March 1762.

YOUR Excellency's Perwana ſignifying, that formerly Mr. Ellis wrote, and now Mr. Van Sittart has written alſo, that when the Company of Seapoys went towards Mongheer, I gave a letter in the name of Shujan Sing, the Naib of that place, for the ſearch and examination of the ſaid Fort; that your Excellency is amazed at this information; that I never gave you the leaſt notice of this affair; and that I ſhould inform you fully of the truth of this matter; I have received with pleaſure.

I know not in truth any thing of this affair, neither did any perſon ever demand, or I write ſuch a letter. Had any ſuch demand been made, what could have induced me to have given ſuch a letter? Or had there been an abſolute neceſſity for one, I ſhould firſt have acquainted you with the particulars, and waited your orders upon them. This affair is utterly falſe and untrue.

V,2.——*Tranſlation of a Letter from* Mharajah Rajebullub *to the* Nabob.

TO-day a man mounted on a horſe belonging to Mr. Ellis, Chief of the Engliſh Factory, was paſſing by the eaſtern gate into the Kella. A Coffree, who commanded the Telingas and Gardees belonging to Goorgheen Cawn, and who had the command of the gate, aſked the horſeman whom

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whom the horſe belonged to? The man refuſed to tell him the owner's name, and gave him ill language. Upon this provocation, the Coffree took hold of the horſe's bridle, and ſtopped him. The horſeman drew his dagger upon him, which the Coffree ſeized, and took from him. The horſeman went to Mr. Ellis, who ſent ſome Telingas to ſeize and carry the Coffree before him. On intelligence of this, I called the Seapoys of the Factory and the Coffree before me, and enquired into the affair in preſence of the Hircara of the Factory. It appeared, that the fact was as I have related it. Afterwards ſpeaking kindly to them, and giving them Betel, I diſmiſſed them. They took their leave of me, but did not go to the Factory, and not being able to ſit at the gate, ſix Seapoys ſtationed themſelves in a ſhop of the Bazar, in the paſſage which leads to my houſe, demanding the Coffree, with ſome gold Mohurs which were plundered. I ſent Golaum Mahmud Cawn to the Chief, to expoſtulate with him for making ſuch trifles a matter of debate, and to deſire him to recall the Seapoys. He would by no means conſent, but replied in anger, "'Till the Coffree is "brought into my preſence, I will never recall "the Seapoys." Since in this manner the affairs of the government ſuffer indignity, and I am not empowered to do any thing without your commands, I requeſt you will ſpeedily favour me with your orders upon this affair that I may act accordingly.

W, 2.——*Tranſlation of a Letter from* Mharajah Rajebullub *to the* Nabob.

THE ſubſtance of a quarrel, which happened between Mr. Ellis's people, and the Coffrees belonging to Goorgheen Cawn, and of the ſix

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six Telingas being stationed at a shop in the Bazar in the way to my house, I have before represented in an address to your Excellency, which you will have received.

Several times, both yesterday and to-day, a person came from the Factory to demand the Coffree. By the means of Meer Abdroolla and Golaum Mahmud Cawn, who formerly passed and repassed into the Factory on business, I returned a suitable answer. At length, the Chief declared, that if the Coffree was not sent it would be treating him with contempt, and if he was sent for one instant only, he should be immediately dismissed. To-day therefore the Coffree was sent: the Chief, enquiring the occasion of the difference, told him, he forgave him his offence, and at the same time dismissed him, and withdrawing the Seapoys called them home. At present there are no Seapoys at the place.

X2.——*Copy of a Letter from Mr.* Ellis *to the* Governor *and* Council.

Dated 26 Jan. 1762.

FROM the late frequent interruptions given to our business, I am necessitated to acquaint you of the general disregard shewn to the English Dustuck throughout the country, but more particularly so in those parts where the Armenians have any influence.

In pursuance of our honourable masters orders by Lord Mansfield, a quantity of Turmerick was purchased near Mow, which when ready I sent a Dustuck for, but to little purpose; for Coja Antoon (the prisoner sent to Calcutta) declared it of no effect, and had the insolence to give one himself under the seal of one Coja Gregory, alias Goorgheen

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Goorgheen Cawn, an Armenian, which I have now the honour to inclose you. Upon my asking him how he dared to give a Duſtuck for the Company's goods? He replied, "To prevent their being ſtopped, which mine would not have done, "becauſe we are not ſufficiently known."

I have frequently complained to the Nabob of theſe inſolencies, and have conſtantly received evaſive and diſſatisfactory anſwers. Once indeed, on a repreſentation made him, at the inſtance of Mr. George Gray, he ſent me a letter for Meer Sheer Aly, the Purnea Naib, which he informed me, was an order to give every aſſiſtance to the gentlemen reſiding at Malda, but I find it proved of no effect, as, I ſuppoſe, Mr. Gray has already acquainted you.

Mr. Hewitt has had two boats with a Duſtuck ſtopped in the Purnea country for near three months, and there are many more on different parts of the river in the ſame ſituation. . . . . This diſregard of the Duſtuck may be attended with the worſt conſequences to the Company's buſineſs, as well as private merchants. I therefore ſubmit it to your determination, whether (ſince the Nabob ſeems to allow of it) it would be moſt eligible for us to puniſh ſeverely any who may impede the carriage of merchandize having an Engliſh Duſtuck.

Y, 2.——*Extract of a Letter from the* Chief *and* Council *of* Patna (*Meſ.* Ellis, Luſhington, *and* Hewitt) *to the* Governor *and* Council.

28 Jan. 1762.

SOME days ago Mr. Smith, being at Mow, informed the Chief from thence of one Coja Antoon, an Armenian, having ſeized five maunds of ſaltpetre, and ſent it to Mongheer; in conſequence

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quence of which a party of Seapoys was detached to bring the Armenian priſoner to this Factory. On being examined, he acknowledged the fact, as likewiſe the incloſed letter, in anſwer to one which our Gomoſtah wrote to him on the ſubject.

Having not the leaſt proſpect of any redreſs from the Nabob, for this contempt of the Perwana, we have thought proper to ſend the Armenian under a guard to Calcutta, not doubting but that you will cauſe ſuch a puniſhment to be inflicted on him, as may deter others from the like practices in future.

Y, 2.a.—— *Extract of a* Conſultation *of the eleventh of* Feb. 1762. (*Preſent Meſ.* Van Sittart, Amyatt, Johnſtone *and* Hay)

COJA Antoon, an Armenian, born at Delly, reſiding at Mulky, on behalf of Saidaram, the Naib of Coja Gregory (who rents eight gants in that part of the country) having been ſeized, and ſent down by the Chief and Council at Patna, for having preſumed to give a Duſtuck for goods belonging to the Company, which had before their own proper Duſtuck, likewiſe for taking from the Company's Nunneas five maunds of petre, being brought before the Board, was ſhewn the Duſtuck which he gave with the goods, and the letter he wrote to our Gomaſtah regarding the five maunds of petre, and aſked, whether he wrote them, and what were his reaſons for ſo doing.

Coja Antoon acknowledges the Duſtuck and letter to have been wrote by him, and declares, that he did not tear or take away the Company's Duſtuck, but only took a copy of it, and returned it with a Duſtuck under the ſeal of Saideram, to enable the goods to paſs the gaunts belonging to Saideram; that it was always the cuſtom to do

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ſo, and that he did the ſame with the Nabob's. With regard to the petre, he ſays, a Noonea, belonging to the Sircar, came from the oppoſite ſide of the river, in order to purchaſe ten rupees worth of petre; that he thereupon ſent for one of the Company's Nooneas, and deſired him to let the other have the petre, to which he readily conſented; that as ſoon as the petre was obtained, he ſent the Noonea, belonging to the Sircar, with the ſalt-petre acroſs the river, accompanied by one of his own ſervants to prevent his being ſtopped.

The Board being of opinion, that upon the whole Coja Antoon has taken upon himſelf an authority, which he has no right to, and it being requiſite that he be made an example of to prevent others from the like practices in future, but as he is a ſervant of the government's, it properly belonging to the Nabob to chaſtize him;

Agreed, he be ſent back to Patna under a guard, and that the gentlemen there deliver him to the Nabob with a letter, which the Preſident is deſired to write to him, inſiſting upon his puniſhing Coja Antoon in a public manner, to prevent others from carrying the petre out of the country, and calling our Duſtucks in queſtion, and we deſire the gentlemen at Patna to inform us particularly, what puniſhment he inflicts upon him.

Z, 2.——*Extract of a* Letter *from Mr.* Ellis *to the* Governor *and* Council.

Dated 13 Feb. 1762.

A Company of Seapoys was detached down the river in queſt of deſerters, of which I apprized Rajebullub, and deſired an order for the ſergeant of the party to be permitted to ſearch the Fort

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Fort of Mongheer. This he assured me was sent down, but the sergeant, on his arrival near Mongheer, having dispatched a messenger to desire admittance, received an answer from one Shujan Sing (Coja Gregory's deputy) that if he did not keep out of the reach of his guns he would fire on him, and at the same time he posted all his people round the walls, upon which the sergeant, who had positive orders to give no offence to any person whatsoever, went about two cos off, where he remains with his party in the utmost distress for provisions, Shujan Sing having forbid any to be sold them. I have not yet ordered them back, because there is certain advice of four of our deserters being concealed in Mongheer Fort. This, gentlemen, is another instance of Armenian insolence.

A, 3.——*Translation of a Letter from the* Nabob *to the* Governor.

Consultation, 22 Feb. 1762.

THIS day, which is the nineteenth of the month Rajub, I have heard by a letter from Shujan Sing, Naib of the Fort of Mongheer, and from the advices of my Hircara, that two or three companies of Seapoys were sent out by Mr. Ellis, the Chief of the Factory at Patna, on the report of some soldiers who had deserted from the Factory to the west of Patna, who, accordingly arriving on a sudden near the Fort of Mongheer, marched against it, but finding the gates shut they surrounded the Fort. The Naib of the place fastened all the gates, and sat within in fear of his life and honour. I am ignorant what provocation has induced that gentleman to send Seapoys to attack the Fort of Mongheer. I have ever regarded

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the ſolemn and ſacred obligations of the treaty which ſubſiſts between us, and have in no inſtance failed in any of the duties of friendſhip. But why you, gentlemen, in defiance of the treaty, ſhould thus commit hoſtilities againſt my Forts and my ſervants, I cannot conceive. Depending on your juſtice, and the inclination which you have ſhewn to befriend me in all my affairs in conformity with the treaty; "I have wrote you of this affair, and "ſend you the advices abovementioned for your "information. I am here taking ſuch meaſures "for regulating the concerns of this quarter as "you might approve of, and have ſtationed men "in the Forts and Tannauts." If this is contrary to your inclination intimate it to me that they may be recalled. What neceſſity was there to ſend an armed force againſt my people? Whatever you judge adviſeable and proper on this occaſion do you determine, and inform me, that I, who regard your ſatisfaction beyond every other conſideration, may act agreeably thereto. The diſgrace which my authority has ſuffered is beyond deſcription.

P. S. Mr. Ellis having wrote to me, and requeſted a Perwana to Sheer Aly Cawn not to ſtop any goods, I have at this time received advice, that, for a trifling cauſe, that gentleman has diſgraced and carried away Coja Antoon, the Aumil of Punohmala Purgunna, in the juriſdiction of Mongheer, a priſoner to the Factory. The anſwer which, on this occaſion, I wrote to him, I ſend you incloſed, and deſire you will read it.

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A, 3. a. ——*Tranſlation of a* Letter *from* Rajebullub *to the* Nabob.

THIS day, being Sunday the twenty-ſeventh of the month, Jemmady-ulſany at noon, Bya Seddaram the Piſhcar of Coja Goorgheen Cawn came, and acquainted me, that Coja Antoon, an Armenian, who is one of his (Goorgheen Cawn's) kinſmen, and appointed by him to the charge of the affairs of Punohmala, &c. in the diſtricts of Mongheer, was ſeized and carried away by about four hundred Europeans and Seapoys in the Engliſh ſervice, who were diſpatched to that place. The affair is this. It was reported, that he had bought a ſmall quantity of ſalt-petre, which he was accuſed of having plundered from the Factory. I was going to ſend Golam Mahmud Cawn to enquire into this affair, when Bya Seddaram again ſent me word, that thay had brought Coja Antoon to the Factory. Accordingly I ſent Golam Mahmud Cawn to Mr. Ellis, the Chief of the Factory, to repreſent to him, that Coja Antoon was a man of credit, and entruſted with affairs of great conſequence under the government, and that to treat him in ſo violent a manner was improper, that if he would ſend him to me (which was proper) I would examine him. But this he would by no means conſent to, but replied, that that man had done great prejudice to the buſineſs of the Factory, and that he would put him in irons, and ſend him to Calcutta. I again ſent word, that he ought to ſend the ſaid Coja to me, and if Mr. Ellis had any claim upon him, it ſhould be debated before him. He anſwered, "I will neither releaſe him nor ſend "him to you, but he ſhall not be ill treated." I

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have wrote this for your information, and wait your orders regarding this affair.

A, 3. b.— *Copy of a* Letter *from* Shujan Sing *to* Dewan Saddaram.

THIS day, being the thirteenth of the month Rejub, in the afternoon, a company of English troops arrived, and encamped first at Suffiabad. About two hours afterwards leaving Suffiabad they entered Mongheer by the road of the Bozar, and passing near the eastern gate came at once into the garden, which is a gun-shot to the north of the Fort, in a treacherous and designing manner, and there pitched the tents. As I was upon my guard in the Fort, they could not surprize it, but went into the garden, and placed guards around the Fort. Their design is certainly to deal treacherously by us, though what their motives are cannot be known, nor have they declared themselves. As their force is small, they have wrote to their Chief, that the Fort is so well secured that they cannot attack it, but if a reinforcement be sent them they will storm it. For this reason I wrote to you to acquaint you, that there is no danger from one or two companies, but if the Chief of the Factory at Patna should send a large force to their assistance, it will not be in my power to oppose them. We are but one hundred new-raised Burkundasses with the Seapoys and Peons, which belong to the garrison, and are ready to sacrifice ourselves to the service of our master. As you are in the place of my commander, I request you will dispatch two or three hundred good men speedily by water to my assistance. I shall do my duty, but you know that I have but a few men with me; and I before represented this

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to you. I request a speedy answer, and a supply of three or four hundred bullets and some lead. If the latter arrives, I can make bullets. What happens hereafter, I will advise you of.

A, 3.c.—*Translation of a* Letter *from the* Nabob *to the* Governor.

Dated 26 March 1762.

YOUR friendly letter, dated the seventeenth of Shabaun, I have received, and I rejoice at the news of your welfare, you write, that "Mr. Ellis applied to Mharajah Rajebullub, as "Naib of Azimabad, and obtained from him a "letter to Shujan Sing, the Kelladar of Mong-"heer, which he sent him, and that the Mhara-"jah, knowing himself to be Naib, wrote a letter "and gave it; that the Kelladar would not suffer "the sergeant to go into the Fort to look for the "soldiers, and made a disturbance for a trifling "affair; that I should write a Perwana to the "said Kelladar, and order him to suffer the Fort "to be searched for the soldiers, and that he be "punished in case they be found there."

Whatever you write is proper; yet from my first accession to the government, I have perceived that many English gentlemen were ill affected to me, and that the country was not in my own hands. The cause of the disaffection of those gentlemen I know not, you may. The cause of the country's not being in my own hands is this, that from the Factory of Calcutta to Cossimbazar, Patna, and Dacca, all the English Chiefs with their Gomastahs, officers, and agents in every district of the government act as collectors, renters, Zemindars, and Taalucdars, and setting up the Company's colours allow no power to my officers.

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And beſides this, the Gomaſtahs and other ſervants in every diſtrict, in every Gunge, Pergunna and village, carry on a trade in oil, fiſh, ſtraw, bamboos, rice, paddy, betel-nut, and other things; and every man, with a Company's Duſtuck in his hand, regards himſelf as not leſs than the Company. In this caſe, I never can have any authority as long as I live. Nevertheleſs, I believed, and aſſured myſelf, that you would not liſten to what ſlanderers might ſay of my proceedings, and that whenever I wrote to you about the oppreſſions of the Gomaſtahs, you would puniſh and keep them in bounds. But now, from the letters which I have twice received from you, it is evident, that whatever I write, you regard as a falſhood, and that whatever thoſe gentlemen write, with a view of vilifying me, and rendering me contemptible, that you give credit to. I have no remedy.

Rajebullub as Naib might have written, and given a letter about ſuch an affair, when I was not within two or three days journey of Patna. But whilſt I am at hand, what authority has he to proceed in ſuch an affair without my knowledge. Therefore he ſtrongly denies, that he wrote ſuch a letter, as you muſt have known before this from his letter which I ſent you. This circumſtance ought to be enquired into; becauſe if he did write, and give ſuch a letter, and then denied it to me, it is certain, that he had a deſign to diſturb the friendſhip between us, and in that caſe I will puniſh him as he deſerves, as a warning to other incendiaries.

How could Shujan Sing give liberty to any one to enter the Fort? There is a great difference between ſending a company and a ſingle ſergeant. Since, from the union between us, I look upon the Company's forces as my own, and their Forts and mine as the ſame; in this buſineſs one note or one

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one ſergeant would have been ſufficient. What occaſion was there for ſending a company? I myſelf have never entertained an European in the Fort, and what power has Shujan Sing to entertain any without my knowledge? What ſervice could my affairs reap from four or five Europeans, or what important employment could I give them, that I ſhould offend my friends for ſo trifling an occaſion? And ſince I well know, and you yourſelf are ſenſible, that if I ſhould apply to you for two or four hundred Europeans, you would immediately grant them, why ſhould I entertain four or five in ſecret? . . . . . And what is Shujan Sing's fault. I have not allowed enterance into the Fort. The reaſon is, that Mr. Ellis commits open acts of hoſtility againſt me, raiſes calumnies againſt me, correſponds with my enemies, and inſtead of a ſingle letter ſends two hundred Seapoys; and all that he has written to you is utterly falſe. I have made a ſtrict enquiry, and am certain, that there is not an Engliſh deſerter in the Fort of Mongheer. Till you, and the gentlemen of the Council, do me juſtice in this affair, and ſend me ſome perſon from Calcutta to enquire into it, and bring the ſlanderer to ſhame, I will, upon no account, permit the Fort to be ſearched. That gentleman has invented this falſe charge againſt me to-day, and you, upon his information, without any enquiry, order me to let the Fort be ſearched. Another day, if he writes, that a dependant of your's or European is concealed in my tent, or my houſe, and that I am an enemy of the Company's, you will believe him, miſtruſt me, and order me to ſuffer a ſearch to be made there likewiſe.

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A. 3d.—*Extract of a Letter from the Nabob to the Governor.*

Dated 24 May 1760.

YOU write me, that "to carry on so long a "correspondence in so trifling an affair, "which is nothing more than whether search shall "be made for some European deserters, from "hence you perceive, it is the intention of some "designing persons to breed a dissention between "me and the Company; that if Shujan Sing had "permitted the sergeant to go into the Fort, and "look for the deserters, there would have been "an end of the dispute: that I should believe "you firm to the treaty and your engagements, "nor hearken to the suggestions of designing "persons, but remove them from me."

Though I have ever continued firm to the treaty and to my engagements, though I have maintained my faith to you inviolable, with my heart and soul and am resolved, whilst I live, to persevere in the duties of friendship; yet Mr. Ellis from his inveterate enmity against me, invents falshoods, and writes them to you. It grieves me, that you should pay such regard to what he writes, conclude every thing that I write to be false, and still tell me to let the Fort be searched, and treat this affair, which is the greatest mark of indignity and distrust, as a trifle.

It is amazing, that you have not discovered who is the designing person between you and me. I have no designing person about me. If upon enquiry any such be discovered, I will punish him as he deserves. If I write, that such a person in your society is the designing man, you will not believe me. Before this, I sent you inclosed a letter of the Nabob Salar Jung's Naib of the Vizer. From thence

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thence you must have seen what person is an enemy to my country and life. You are my protector; and your Chief, sitting at Patna, writes letters in enmity to me to the Court, and proclaims with a loud voice, in public company, that "I "am going to the South, and that he will send "two thousand Europeans who shall level the "Fort of Mongheer with the earth; that his "Majesty is about to restore the Nabob Jaffier "Aly Cawn, of the family of Surfray Cawn, "that he has written letters to the Company, and "it will be seen what answer will arrive." .... How long shall I write on these matters, or what profit do I get by writing?

A, 3 e. *Extract of a* Letter *from Lieutenant* Ironside *to the* Governor.

Dated 27 April 1762.

EARLY this morning, Mr. Hastings arrived at Mongheer. About a mile and an half from the town, he found a party of our's encamped, consisting of one sergeant and a compleat company of Seapoys, who came some time in February last, and remained here by order. By a strict prohibition of the Nabob, produced by the Kelladar, they have been constantly refused admittance into the Fort, and whenever they approach the town, either singly or in small bodies, the gates are always closed against them. The sergeant mentions to have received notice, about the latter end of February, of two Europeans who were said by the town's people to be then in the place, but that he himself has never seen them, nor heard of them since, any where about the country.

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In conſequence of your's and Mr. Haſtings's order, I was in the Fort to-day for ſome hours, the ſergeant and two Seapoys with me, who as well as myſelf were acquainted with the place. We diſperſed ſeveral ways, and made a ſtrict but ineffectual ſearch.

One European, indeed, I met with, a lame Frenchman, who has been a long while in the Nabob's ſervice, has loſt an arm in it, and tells me, that he was ſent to this garriſon about ſix months ago. I examined this man very particularly concerning the deſerters, and accompanied my queſtions with promiſes of freedom and a handſome recompence, if he would diſcover to me where they were; but he abſolutely aſſured me, that there were not only none here at preſent, but that he had never ſeen a ſingle European in the Fort ſince his coming.

Upon enquiry in the town, the ſame anſwers were returned. From theſe accounts I am apt to believe, whatever deſerters might have taken ſhelter there, they have been long gone from thence. The extreme miſery of the wretch, to whom I offered the gratuity, ſeems to confirm this opinion, ſince he would ſcarcely have rejected ſuch terms of protection and reward, for declaring what could in no manner affect him to his detriment. He is very anxious for his liberty, which Mr. Haſtings intends to ſolicit for to the Nabob.

About this time, the beginning of the year 1762, a conſpiracy was detected againſt the Nabob's perſon, which was carried on by Seetaran Dewan, Sheik Sadoolla Jemmadar (two of the Nabob's chief confidents) and Narrain Sing, and Muttromel, Hircaras. It was diſcovered by ſome intercepted letters from the conſpirators to Pulwan Sing, and the other Bougepoor Zemindars. Only one of them is here inſerted, as it will ſerve

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to ſhew, by the arguments made uſe of, the unhappy conſequences of Mr. Ellis's conduct, and the encouragement which it gave to the Nabob's enemies.

A, 3.f.——*Tranſlation of a* Letter *from* Seetaram *to* Raja Pulwan Sing.

I Long much to ſee you. I have already wrote you the particulars, which you have doubtleſs peruſed. God grant you may ſoon return to your own country, and there is great probability that that will ſoon happen, for the Nabob Coſſim Aly Cawn and the Europeans are at variance, and Mr. Ellis (Chief of the Engliſh Factory at Patna) and Goorgheen Cawn are great enemies to each other, and Mr. Ellis has ſent an army of Seapoys to take Mongheer Fort. In this ſituation, the Nabob cannot remain in this country. It appears, that he will take the Delly road, on account of the diſputes between him and the Europeans. Shuja Doula will ſhortly be in poſſeſſion of this Province, and you will be in poſſeſſion of your Zemindary, ſo make yourſelf quite eaſy.

As ſoon as the Nabob had poſſeſſion of theſe letters, he ſummoned Seetaram into his preſence, charged him with his crime in the preſence of ſeveral hundreds of people, many of them of diſtinction, who were aſſembled on this occaſion, and produced other proofs of his guilt. He appealed to the aſſembly for their ſentence on him, which was unanimous, that he was guilty, and deſerved to ſuffer death. A few days after, Narrain Sing, and Muttromul underwent the ſame trial, and the ſame fate. Shick Sadoolla, who was encamped at ſome diſtance, refuſed to obey the ſummons. The Nabob detached a body of forces

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forces againſt him, with orders to bring him before him alive or dead. He ſtood on his defence, and was killed.

B, 3.——*Copy of Mr.* Haſting's *Inſtructions,*

15 March 1762.

WE have obſerved, for ſome time paſt, an uneaſineſs or jealouſy in the Nabob's conduct, which we can attribute to nothing but the falſe reports and repreſentations of miſchievous perſons, and being deſirous of convincing him, that we wiſh for nothing more than to preſerve the preſent tranquillity of the country, to avoid all diſputes, and to conform to the terms of the treaty ſubſiſting between him and the Company, we think proper to depute you, in whom the Nabob has great confidence, to make him thoſe aſſurances in our behalf.

At the ſame time, we ſhould be extremely glad to diſcover, who have been the ſecret authors of this growing jealouſy. We imagine, there may be ſome, as well amongſt the perſons, living under our protection, as about the Nabob's perſon. You may aſſure the Nabob, that we ſhall ſeverely puniſh thoſe who belong to us whenever we can fix the guilt, and you will ſtrenuouſly recommend to him to do the ſame on his part.

The ſooner you can ſet out on this commiſſion, the better, that the bad effects, which the want of confidence between us and the Nabob might occaſion in the country, may be prevented.

B, 3 a.——*The*

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B, 3. a.— *The next Council Day but one, Mr.* Amyatt *made a* Motion *in the following Terms.*

MR. Amyatt recollects, the Preſident having mentioned, that twenty lacks of rupees were promiſed by Coſſim Aly Cawn to the Board, but that he would not conſent to this money's being received till the debt to the Company was paid. As that is now ſatisfied; Mr. Amyatt is of opinion, it ſhould be made a part of Mr. Haſtings's inſtructions to endeavour to recover the promiſed twenty lacks, and when recovered, that inſtead of being diſtributed amongſt the members of the Council, which could not fail raiſing a ſuſpicion that our aſſents to the Revolution were bought, the money ſhould be brought to the credit of the Company.

As Mr. Amyatt could not ſincerely think the Company had a right to make ſuch a demand upon the Nabob, it is impoſſible to aſſign any other reaſon for this motion than, an intention of fruſtrating by ſo unjuſt and vexatious a diſpute the good end propoſed from Mr. Haſtings's deputation, and effectually ſhutting up all the ways of reconciliation, by a demand which every one knew the Nabob would reject with aſtoniſhment. However, Meſ. Johnſtone and Hay joined heartily in this demand, and whether they thought Major Carnac's opinion would add weight to their reſolutions, or whether they were unwilling to deprive him of a ſhare in every opportunity of inſulting the Nabob, or whether it was the Major's own deſire to be a party on this occcaſion, it was moved, that he ſhould be called to the Board, although it is very certain, according to the Company's regulations, he could not ſit there on ſuch a ſubject.

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a ſubject. . . . . The opinions given by the ſeveral members, and by myſelf, with reſpect to the propoſed demand, were theſe following.

B, 3. b. ——*The following is the Subſtance of the Debate upon the Motion for calling Major* Carnac *to the Board, upon this Occaſion.*

MR. Johnſtone moves, that the opinion of the Colonel and Major ſhould be aſked, with regard to the inſtructions to be given to Mr. Haſtings.

The queſtion being put, whether the Colonel and Major ſhould be deſired to attend.

Meſſ. Hay, Johnſtone, and Amyatt, are of opinion, the company's intention in their ſixty-third paragraph, mentioning military affairs and matters relative thereto, implies, that Colonel Coote and Major Carnac are to be preſent and conſulted in affairs of ſuch a publick nature as deputations, alliances, and in drawing up inſtructions for whoever may be ſent in ſuch publick character on the part of the Board, when the national honour and the company's buſineſs are intereſted.

The Governor thinks, that the Company's inſtructions in the ſixty-fourth paragraph of their commands, of the 13th of March, 1761, are very plain, that neither Colonel Coote, nor Major Carnac, are Members either of the Board, or the Select Committee, excepting in caſes where military affairs only are under debate. Theſe are the words of the Company's letter, and need no explanation, and are apparently intended to limit the meaning of the word *relative*, which ſtands in the foregoing paragraph, and which can be underſtood only of negociations to be carried on with any foreign power, with a view to ſome projected

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projected military operation. He thinks the instructions to Mr. Hastings are no ways relative to military affairs; yet it is not at all disagreeable to him to have the advice of those gentlemen, if the rest of the Board think it will be for the good of the Company.

B, 3.c.——*Mr.* Hay's *Minute.*

AS it appears to me from the President's declaration, that the bond for this money was given to the Members of the Board that were then present in Calcutta, and that Mr. Holwell was one of them; from its being the only advantage gained by the treaty with Cossim Aly Cawn, except his promise to get the Nabob Meer Jaffeir Cawn to make over the revenues of the lands, now possessed by the Company, for the maintenance of our troops in his service, and that the only expence and risk of putting in Cossim Aly Cawn, for which he promised and gave a bond for this twenty lacks, must fall on the Company; I think, that they have an undoubted right to the money; and that it should be demanded of the Nabob on their account; and in case he refuses payment on account of the bond's being returned, that he should be made to understand, that it was returned without proper authority, and not by an order of the Board.

Mr. Johnstone's *Minute.*

Mr. Johnstone thinks, Mr. Hastings should be directed to ask this sum promised by Cossim Aly Cawn, in consequence of the service to be rendered him by the representatives of the Company, and by their power and influence, which may therefore be considered as the Company's due. Otherwise, the proceedings of their servants, in the advance-

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ment of Coſſim Aly Cawn, would be liable to the ſuſpicions, that their motives were other than thoſe they have declared; that when Coſſim Aly Cawn tendered his bond to the members then preſent in Calcutta, the Company might have expected their agents to have accepted and transferred it to their account, from the ſame ſpirit of diſintereſtedneſs as the only immediate advantage then offered, eſpecially as the Company run the riſk, and ſupplied the force and expence required for this revolution; and he joins in opinion with Mr. Hay, that as the bonds were not returned by a regular deed of the Council, the amount may be ſtill demanded and recovered of the Nabob.

Major Carnac's *Minute.*

Major Carnac is of opinion, the demand propoſed to be made to the Nabob by Meſ. Amyatt, Johnſtone, and Hay, of the twenty lacks ought to be done, were it only in juſtification of themſelves; for however innocent the gentlemen of the Board may be, the world probably imagines, that they have all received ſome pecuniary conſideration, in return for having appointed Coſſim Aly Cawn to the Soubadaree, whereas from this demand being made, the contrary will appear upon record. If the Nabob refuſes, which I think he will and ought, we are juſtified at once; and if he grants it, there is ſo much gained to the Company.

The Preſident's *Minute.*

That a right judgment may be formed, whether the demand propoſed by Mr. Amyatt to be made upon the Nabob of twenty lacks of rupees is reaſonable or not, it ſeems neceſſary to recite here

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here all the circumſtances of the caſe, on which he would found the claim. . . . . I have informed the Nabob more than once, and particularly in conſultation, 12 Jan. 1761, that Coſſim Aly Cawn (now the Nabob) at the time of concluding the treaty with him, in the month of September 1760, deſired to make a preſent to myſelf and the other gentlemen of the Select Committee then at Calcutta. I have as often mentioned, that I immediately and abſolutely declined the ſaid offer for myſelf and the reſt of the gentlemen, obſerving to Coſſim Aly Cawn, that in the agreements entered into with him, we had no other view but the reſtoring order to the country, and ſettling a more certain fund for ſupplying the unavoidable expences of the Company, then ſo ill provided for, that our troops at Patna had been ſome months without their pay, at the ſame time that the Nabob's own affairs were in ſo diſtreſſed a condition, that he was every day in danger of loſing his life by the mutinous attempts of his troops.

The paper, which Coſſim Aly Cawn delivered me, containing this propoſal, I returned the very moment I had read it. It was wrote in Perſian, and, to the beſt of my recollection, was to the following purport: "That three months after his "appointment to the Neabut, or deputy govern-"ment under the Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, he "would give twenty lacks of rupees to Meſſ. "Van Sittart, Holwell, Caillaud, Sumner, and "M'Gwire." Theſe four gentlemen entirely approved of my refuſal of this offer, and what I ſaid on the occaſion to Coſſim Aly Cawn, who was however a good deal ſurprized and uneaſy at it. Afterwards at Moorſhedabad, when Jaffier Aly Cawn declared his reſolution to retire to Calcutta, and Coſſim Aly Cawn was proclaimed Subah of the Provinces, he renewed the ſame offer, and I again

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declined it in the same terms, adding, that if he found himself capable of raising money enough to answer the monthly payments of the Company's balance, and satisfy the troops of Jaffier Aly Cawn, and had besides any thing to spare, he might make the Company a present of five lacks over and above his agreements, to be sent to Madras to help defray the expences of the army before Pondicherry, to which he immediately consented.

I returned from Moorshedabad to Calcutta, without receiving directly or indirectly a single rupee from the Nabob, or any other person by his order and direction, and I can venture to aver as much for Colonel Caillaud, Mr. Hastings, and the other gentlemen who were with me.

About two months after, the Nabob sent me a compliment of a bill for twenty-five thousand rupees, upon the occasion of the birth of my son. I laid this before the Board in consultation, the twelfth of January 1761, and declared, that as I had rejected for myself and the other gentlemen of the Select Committee, all offers of private emolument, and had not received a single rupee from the Nabob, so neither would I, while a doubt subsisted with respect to the money he had engaged to pay the Company, or the long arrears of his predecessor's troops; accordingly the twenty-five thousand rupees were paid into the Company's treasury.

Since that, the Nabob has, by a surprizing diligence in the regulation of the affairs of his government, discharged not only the payments due to the Company, with the addition of the promised five lacks, but has also satisfied his predecessor's and his own troops, notwithstanding the cession to the Company of Burdwan, Midnipoor, and

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and Chittagong, made a very large deduction from his revenues.

The amount the Company have received from the Nabob, is about twenty-six lacks of * Sicca rupees, as by receipt in full entered, after consultation, 8 February 1762, and from the said countries, ceded as before mentioned, we have received to the thirty-first of January last above fifty-three lacks of † Current rupees, as by abstracted account transmitted to the honourable Court of Directors by the Warren.

After this, I cannot see upon what pretence we can demand of the Nabob a farther sum of twenty lacks of rupees. If we were in distress for money for carrying on the Company's affairs, and were, on that account, under a necessity of requesting of the Nabob to lend us such a sum, I have that opinion of him as to think, that he would comply with the request if in his power, or even give it, if such an application was to be made to him as a favour requested for the Company.

And, on the other hand, if the demand of such a sum was set up without the least just plea, I think he will not only excuse himself from complying with so unreasonable a claim, but will also look upon it as a mark, that we are not inclined to observe on our part, the treaty which he has so well fulfilled on his, and in which it is agreed, that we shall ask nothing more than the monies therein promised, and the cessions therein stipulated. Consequently such a demand would very much add to the uneasiness which the Board have of late observed

* A Sicca rupee is worth about two shillings eight pence half-penny, reckoning the current rupee at two shillings four pence.

† A current rupee is reckoned worth two shillings four pence.

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ſerved in the Nabob, and which one and all have expreſſed a deſire of finding out the cauſe of, and removing. The demand now propoſed tends to aggravate that uneaſineſs, inſtead of removing it. I hope, ſuch is not Mr. Amyatt's view in making the propoſal, but it is hard to conceive from what motive it can have proceeded. Certainly, it is not from pure regard for the Company, nor from any conviction of the juſtneſs of the claim; for he never thought of offering the Company what he received of the Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn's preſent to the Council and Committee, nor ever gave it as his opinion, that the Company had a right to it.

For my own part, I think, that neither the Company, nor I, nor any other perſon, have any claim or demand upon the Nabob of any ſort, that there is not even an appearance of juſtice in Mr. Amyatt's propoſal, and that the proſecution of it could have none but bad conſequences.

B, 3.d.—*The Majority of the* Board *agreeing, that the propoſed Demand ſhould be made upon the* Nabob, *the following* Poſtſcript *was accordingly added to Mr.* Haſtings's *Inſtructions.*

AND we farther direct you to apply to the Nabob for the twenty lacks of rupees, the amount of the bond he gave at the time the treaty was made with him to the members of the Select Committee then preſent in Calcutta, to which ſum, notwithſtanding they returned the bond, we conceive the Company have a title. You will, therefore, uſe your beſt endeavours to recover the ſame as ſoon as poſſible, as the tranquillity of the country,

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country, by the success of our arms, has undoubtedly enabled him to discharge the above obligation.

B, 3. c.——*Mr.* Amyatt *judging it necessary to make some Reply to the Arguments contained in the* President's Minute, *it is here inserted, lest it should be said, that any thing is omitted, although not material to the present Subject.*

THE Minute, given in by the President the twenty-second of March, has not, in the least altered the sentiments of Mr. Amyatt, in regard to the demand proposed by him to be made from Cossim Aly Cawn of the twenty lacks of rupees for the use of the Company, as he finds nothing in the Minute to invalidate the reason, which induced him to propose, that the demand should be made, nor did any Minute or expression of Mr. Van Sittart's ever imply such money was not to be received, but the contrary, and only rested the payment of it to the Nabob's generosity after his other expences were defrayed, which was not risking much; for while we remain so powerful in this country, such a promise the Nabob will look on as binding as a bond, and the taking a bond might have bad appearances, for it is acknowledged, that a paper was received from him containing a promise of twenty lacks of rupees to Mess. Van Sittart, Caillaud, Holwell, Sumner, and M'Gwire. Now, it is not to be imagined, that he would have offered so large a sum to these gentlemen, to the exclusion of the other members of the Council and Select Committee (an offer before unprecedented) but as a consideration to engage them to conclude with him a treaty, from whence he was to reap so much advantage,

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without regard to the opinions of the reſt of the Board. As therefore they could have no right to receive money upon ſuch terms, and Mr. Amyatt is willing to believe they have not, if they thought proper of themſelves to ſign a treaty on the part of our honourable maſters, the conſideration for ſo doing ought to be paid to thoſe who were to be the only loſers, in caſe of ill conſequences ariſing thencefrom. The parallel between the preſent received by Mr. Amyatt, in common with the whole Board, as well as with the army and navy, and this of twenty lacks, intended for five gentlemen only, is as unjuſt, as it would be to make parallel between the two revolutions; the one eſtabliſhed in conſequence of the overthrow of a common enemy; the other in direct breach of the former engagements, the act of only part of the Council, and to which, had all its members been conſulted, the majority would probably have objected. Mr. Amyatt wiſhes, he could agree with the Preſident, that the Nabob is well diſpoſed towards us; if that were the caſe, there would be no neceſſity, at this time, of our ſending Mr. Haſtings up to him. The whole tenor of his conduct demonſtrates the contrary. He is keeping up and daily encreaſing a rabble of an army at an immenſe expence, which he can do from no other motives but from diſtruſt and a deſire of being independent of us, as he may command, by virtue of the treaty, the ſervice of our troops for all occaſions. He now remains at the extremity of the country through his ſuſpicions of us, and in order to be at a greater diſtance from our ſettlements, has determined on removing the ſeat of his government to Rajamaul; and indeed it is no wonder he ſhould entertain theſe ſuſpicions, as he can have no ſecurity that we will keep our faith with him better than we did with his father-in-law, to

whom

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whom we were bound by engagements more ſolemn than thoſe ſince entered into with him; nor can he ever acquit himſelf of his own treachery to Jaffier Aly Cawn, which muſt ever keep alive the ſuſpicions now burning in his breaſt. Mr. Amyatt does not allow the ſmalleſt degree of merit to Coſſim Aly Cawn, for having diſcharged the payments due to the Company and his troops. His being in a condition to do ſo was entirely owing to the happy change of affairs by the defeat of the Shazada. The ſame ſucceſs would have equally enabled Meer Jaffier to do ſo. But, moreover, Coſſim Aly Cawn has taken the opportunity of the tranquillity of the country to commit the moſt unheard of exactions and oppreſſions, and (as a farther proof of his regard for us) more particularly againſt ſuch as were our avowed friends. Ramnarain with many others are now the unhappy inſtances thereof, by the giving up of whom and becoming in every thing ſince ſubſervient to the Nabob's views, without keeping up any intereſt or friendſhip with any other of the leading men in the country, there is not a man of any rank or conſequence, as dare ſo much as viſit, or have the leaſt connection with any of our chiefs or commanders, as their letters to this Board at different times can teſtify.

B, 3 f. —— *To which the* Preſident *anſwered theſe few Words to cloſe the* Subject.

THE Preſident begs leave to obſerve, that the treaty entered into with Coſſim Aly Cawn, properly came under the province of the Select Committee, and all the members thereof, who were preſent in Calcutta, were unanimous in their approbation of it. . . . . As to the remarks on the conſequences of that treaty, they are the

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ſame as have already been often mentioned, and to which we may expect ſhortly the ſentiments and directions of our honourable maſters.

C, 3.—*Tranſlation of the* Nabob's *Reply to the Repreſentations of the* Board.

THAT you gentlemen ſhould unreaſonably demand twenty lacks of rupees of me ſurprizes me greatly. This is a behaviour unworthy men of dignity, in whom it is doubtleſs improper, after having refuſed a thing, to contradict themſelves, and demand it in the name of their maſters. It is true, I formerly offered to give ſuch a ſum to Mr. Van Sittart, and ſome other gentlemen, but they poſitively refuſed it, ſaying, "We are wellwiſhers of the Company, and deſire "nothing for ourſelves, give the Company the "three Provinces of Burdwan, &c. and that is "ſufficient." Now moſt of the gentlemen, to whom I made this offer, have left the country, and as to the one or two, who ſtill remain here, I do not think that they will demand it of me. You, Sir, who are come to this place to bring ſo unjuſt a claim, on what pretence, and with what deſign do you do it? You ought to keep in view, gentlemen, the agreement I made with you in relation to the affairs of the Company, wherein, when I agreed to give them the three Provinces of Burdwan, &c. you promiſed on their part, and gave it me in writing, that, after having received thoſe Provinces, you would not aſk a farthing more of me. Having accordingly fully complied with my agreements, I did beſides, at the inſtance and deſire of Mr. Van Sittart, and of my own free will, give the Company five lacks of rupees over and above, willing thereby to give Mr. Van Sittart a credit with the Company, and that they might

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might regard me as their friend in every reſpect. By the grace of GOD, I have compleatly fulfilled the treaty, and have not, in a ſingle inſtance, deviated from it. Yet, gentlemen, notwithſtanding this treaty, which you ſolemnly made with me, and ratified with the ſeal of the Company, you now demand a ſum of money from me, which I have never borrowed of you, nor obliged myſelf to pay, nor have you in any manner the leaſt claim on me. I owe nobody a ſingle rupee, nor will I pay your demand. This new cuſtom which you are endeavouring to ſet up in violation of the treaty between us, this cuſtom ſo calculated for raiſing a diſturbance, I will not admit nor hear of.

You ſay, that I ſhould remove out of my mind whatever jealouſy I may have of the Engliſh. This particular ſurprized me much, for, from what that I have ſaid does this jealouſy appear? And who has reported ſuch a falſhood to you? It is proper, that you ſhould make due enquiry into this affair. I have before wrote to the Governor of the proceedings of your dependents; and it is the way of the world, that amongſt fathers and ſons, brothers, friends, and intimates, differences will ſometimes ariſe, but ſoon give place to friendſhip and benevolence, nor were any of theſe matters of ſuch conſequence, that from them you ſhould ſuſpect my ſincerity, and ſend me a meſſage ſo different from the rules and language of friendſhip.

You are pleaſed to ſay, there are miſchievous and malevolent men who propagate ſcandalous ſtories of you gentlemen. I have before wrote repeatedly, that whatever villain in my council dare ſpeak ill of you before me, the moment he were known he ſhould be puniſhed. Now, if ſuch an one is known to you, gentlemen, write me his name, that I may make an example of him. Many

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new Factories have been eſtabliſhed in every part of the country, both on the Company's account, and by private gentlemen, and a trade carried on in all ſorts of goods, ſuch as it was never the cuſtom to trade in. To this day, neither I nor my people have ever offered them the leaſt obſtruction, nor cauſed them the loſs of one rupee. It grieves me, that without cauſe or enquiry, you gentlemen, ſuffer ſuch ſuſpicions to take place in your hearts, and declare them to me your friend. Who it is belonging to yourſelves that is continually ſpeaking ill of me, propagating calumnies againſt me, and repreſenting me to you as your enemy is not unknown to you. The acts of violence committed by Mr. Ellis before my face, the inſults on my people, and the diſturbances raiſed in the country, my authority rendered contemptible to all Indoſtan, and obſtructions thrown in the way of every buſineſs of the government in the Province of Bahar. . . . . All theſe have I fully repreſented in my letter to Mr. Van Sittart from the beginning till now; nor ſhall I dwell on ſuch a ſubject afreſh, becauſe I am well perſuaded, that Mr. Van Sittart, and the gentlemen of the Council, will make ſtrict enquiry into this affair, and bring to condign puniſhment whoever without cauſe or reaſon has acted as my enemy, that for the future no one may give interruption to my buſineſs, nor interfere in the affairs of my government. Until you make enquiry into his behaviour, and bring him to puniſhment, my authority will never be eſtabliſhed.

You ſay, that I ſhould look upon the friendſhip and treaties of Engliſhmen as ſincere and inviolable. . . . . I have been long convinced, gentlemen, that our friendſhip would by no means be interrupted, and that in ſpite of the miſchievous ſlanders of malicious men, the foundations of our amity

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amity would be unshaken, because I know for certain, that the English never break their treaties and agreements, and that all their enquiries are sincere and impartial.

C, 3. a.—*Copy of a* Letter *from Mr.* Hastings *to Mr.* Ellis.

Dated Sarsaram, 13 May 1762.

IT was a disappointment to me, that I could not see you at Patna before I proceeded to the Nabob's camp. You cannot be ignorant of the commission, which I have received from the Board, with which my inclinations so heartily concur, that I should have eagerly embraced every occasion to create a good understanding between the Nabob and every person employed in any post of consequence under the Company, knowing how essential such a temper is to the success of our affairs. I was in hopes, that a meeting with you might have enabled me the more effectually to promote this design, as you could have instructed me with the causes of the late disagreements between yourself and the Nabob, and pointed out such expedients as were the most likely to remedy them.

Your motives for denying me that opportunity (which tho' but as a compliment due to a Member of your own Board, I might have expected) are best known to yourself. However, setting aside all personal considerations, I am yet willing to give you and the world a proof of my desire to remove every occasion of distrust or dissention, which may disturb the publick affairs, in offering you freely my assistance to promote a better disposition between the Nabob and yourself, than I find at present subsisting.

I will

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I will not conceal from you, that he charges you with attempting to breed a diſagreement between him and the Company, and has declared it in his reply to the meſſage which I carried him from the Board.

I confeſs, I am not pleaſed to interfere in ſuch a ſubject, but would rather wiſh to conciliate matters were it in my power. For this reaſon, I have deferred delivering the Nabob's reply, in my letters to the Board, till I receive your anſwer, with which I hope to be ſoon favoured.

C,3.b.—*To this letter Mr.* Ellis *made the following Reply.*

Dated Singia, 17 May 1762.

I AM this moment favoured with your's of the 13th. It was impoſſible for me to know that our meeting was in any degree neceſſary unleſs you had told me ſo; for to this time I am no further acquainted with the Commiſſion you have received from the Board, than what was once mentioned in a private letter, viz. to remove the Nabob's jealouſies. Neither do I think any Member of the Board could reaſonably expect, that I ſhould pay him the compliment of travelling fifteen miles at this ſeaſon, when he never adviſed me of his approach, without which I could be at no certainty, either as to the time of his arrival, or ſtay at Patna; and, indeed, common report informed me of your having ſet out for the Nabob's camp ſome days before it ſeems you did.

The laudable deſires you expreſs of removing every occaſion of diſtruſt or diſagreement that may diſturb the public affairs, be aſſured, ſhall meet with every aſſiſtance in my power, nor can you

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you wiſh more ardently for the effecting ſo good a work, than I do myſelf. The cauſes of the Nabob's late behaviour I cannot account for, unleſs it be my not having concurred in ſentiment with thoſe gentlemen who raiſed him to the Muſnud. From the time of my taking charge of the Company's affairs in this province, I have ever been ſolicitous to keep up a harmony and good underſtanding, not only with the Nabob but his officers; they, on the contrary, have been moſt induſtrious to deſtroy it. Twice has the city of Patna been alarmed with a report, that the Engliſh intended to attack it; and, in conſequence thereof, guns mounted, guards augmented, gates ſhut, and admittance denied to every one belonging to the factory; and all this without the leaſt plauſible pretence whatever being given.

The falſehoods induſtriouſly propagated of my deſign to take Mongheer you can be no ſtranger to, nor the ridiculous light in which they appear. On all occaſions, the Engliſh are repreſented as the Nabob's greateſt enemies; and it is notorious, that no man, who values his favour, dare appear in the factory.

The Nabob accuſes me of attempting to breed a diſagreement between him and the Company. After what he has accuſed other gentlemen of, nothing of this kind is ſurprizing. However, a general charge amounts to very little. This term he has, without any grounds, given to my ſeizing Coja Antoine. I had before made repeated complaints to him, of the interruption given our buſineſs, which being little or not at all regarded, it became a duty incumbent on me, to take other meaſures for ſecuring one of the moſt valuable branches of the Company's commerce. Of the inſults received in the ſeizure, detention, and loſs of my boats, I before acquainted you, as likewiſe

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of the affront the Nabob has given me in not anſwering my letters; but notwithſtanding the firſt or ſecond inſtance of this kind, I continued writing to him on buſineſs, till my Hircarahs were ill treated in his camp.

The firſt grand ſtep towards obtaining the deſired end will be, for the Nabob to remove from about his perſon all thoſe, who at preſent poiſon his mind with falſe and idle ſtories. Let him eſteem the Engliſh as his beſt and only friends, and as ſuch place an entire confidence in them. If any cauſe of diſguſt appear, let him apply to thoſe who are entruſted with the management of the Company's affairs, to have the matter cleared up, which he may always be aſſured of. For my own part, I ſhall never do any thing but what I will aſſert to him and the world; and I appeal to Rajebullub, or any other perſon in office at Patna, whether upon any complaint being lodged againſt our ſervants under my juriſdiction, I have not given them a ſpeedy and ample ſatisfaction; and all I deſire is, that they would act in the ſame manner towards the ſervants of the government, who inſult and treat us ill. This would create a mutual confidence, and put an end to the preſent diſſention.

C, 3. c.—*Copy of a Letter from Mr.* Haſtings *to the Governor and Council.*

Dated Jummor, 24 May 1762.

UPON my arrival at the Nabob's camp, I informed him of the ſubſtance of my inſtructions, and added ſuch aſſurances as I judged moſt conducible to remove any diſtruſt that might have ariſen in his mind. His reply I have the honour to tranſmit to you, in the incloſed paper, which

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which I received from him signed with his own hand, and I shall wait your further commands for my conduct in relation to the matters contained therein.

I will not take upon me to judge of the disputes which have arisen between the Nabob and Mr. Ellis, nor am I properly qualified to give my sentiments upon them, being as yet only acquainted with the complaints of the former. But, I think, I cannot better acquit myself of the task which you have enjoined me, and which my duty to the service requires from me, than by offering my opinion in general, that in all differences between the Company's servants or inferior agents, and the government, if proper justice cannot be obtained from the Nabob, or those authorized to act under him, application should be made to the Board, and no person be allowed on any pretence to use violent means for the redress of his own grievances. This method till lately has been constantly and universally observed in all our concerns, not only before the restoration of the Company's privileges, but by those who have since had the administration of their affairs, and who will hardly be suspected of having neglected the honour of the nation, or the interest of their employers. In effect, it is only by reserving to yourselves the privileges of deciding on all matters of contention, that the authority of the Board can be maintained, or the publick tranquillity secured.

C, 3. d.—*Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Hastings *to Mr.* Ellis.

Dated Jummor, 27 May 1762.

THIS complaint having been sent through my hands, I will deal so openly with you,

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as to give you this timely notice of it, by sending you an extract of that part of his letter which concerns yourself.

C, 3. e.—*To these are added some other Letters of the President's Correspondence with Mr.* Hastings, *which relate to the Disputes between the Nabob and Mr.* Ellis, *and shew the Pains ineffectually taken to make Peace between them.*

C, 3. f.—*Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Hastings *to the Governor.*

Sarseram, 13 May 1762.

I Desired Mr. Ironside to inform you, yesterday, of our arrival at Sarseram on the 9th instant. I proceeded directly to the Nabob's tent. He received me with great politeness, and enquired in a friendly manner after your health. This visit passed only in general conversation. The next evening I opened to him the subject of my commission from the Board, which I gave him in writing, and pretty nearly in the correspondent words of the letter, the postscript excepted, which I read to him from the original, and (not without some difficulty) explained to him.

He expressed much dissatisfaction, that he should be charged with entertaining a jealousy of the English; which, he said, argued some misbehaviour in him towards them, as the consequence of such sentiments, and challenged me to mention one instance of his having betrayed a want of confidence in the Company, or deviated from the treaty with them. It is true, he added, he had frequent subject of complaint against the English

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Engliſh dependants; but that made no alteration in his engagements with their principals, or his particular obligations to you. ... He was as little pleaſed with the aſſertion, that the people about his perſon had given occaſion to any difference between him and the Engliſh. He deſired, that they might be named; and declared, that on whomſoever ſuch a fact was proved he would put him to death; but (proceeded he) "if you are yet at a "loſs to know who it is amongſt yourſelves that "ſtrives to create a miſunderſtanding between us, "I will name him. It is Mr. Ellis, who by his "acts of violence committed on my ſervants, and "the unprovoked attacks which he is daily mak-"ing upon my authority, has not only given en-"couragement to my enemies, and the diſaffect-"ed people in my own ſervice, but has given oc-"caſion to ſuch reports to the diſcredit of my go-"vernment at the Court of Shuja Doula, as "might be of the worſt conſequence to my af-"fairs."

With regard to Mr. Ellis, I am at a loſs how to act. His behaviour in my opinion has been ſo imprudent, and his diſaffection to the Nabob ſo manifeſtly inveterate, that a proper repreſentation of it could not fail to draw upon him the ſevereſt reſentment of the Company. But, beſides my averſion to violent meaſures, the length of time before the Company's notice of theſe affairs could reach us, and the ſupport that the moſt glaring miſconduct in him would meet with from a majority of the Board, have inclined me rather to make choice of ſuch means, as may be more likely to conciliate than inflame our mutual animoſities. With this view I have wrote to Mr. Ellis a letter, of which the incloſed is a copy, and will acquaint you with his anſwer. If he accepts of my offer, I will do him every good office that

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I can with the Nabob. If he declines it, I will not only let the Nabob purſue his own meaſures, but will even join him in endeavouring to confute the aſperſions which have been made uſe of to ruin his credit with the Company.

C, 3. g.——*Extract of a Letter from the Governor to Mr.* Haſtings.

Dated 26 May 1762.

I HAD the pleaſure to receive this morning your favour of the 13th. The Nabob's anſwer to the repreſentation you made him on the part of the Board, is exactly uniform with all his former declarations in regard to the diſputes that have ariſen between him and Mr. Ellis; and this uniformity is a ſtrong proof with me, that he ſpeaks with a good conſcience, and has reaſon on his ſide. However, as I love peace and quietneſs, and have learnt to make allowances for the different tempers and paſſions of different men; I approve entirely of your endeavours to conciliate matters between the Nabob and Mr. Ellis, and wiſh that the latter may accept of your good offices: If not, you can do no otherwiſe than repreſent fully to the Board, the Nabob's anſwer to the ſubject matter of your inſtructions.

C, 3. h.—*Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Haſtings *to the Governor.*

Dated Jummor, 26 May 1762.

THE world judging only from facts, ſees the Nabob's authority publickly inſulted, his officers impriſoned, ſeapoys ſent againſt his forts; and is told, that the chief of the Engliſh in

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in theſe parts diſavows the Nabob's right to the Subaſhip. The obvious end of ſuch ſymptoms is an open rupture. The Nabob's enemies receive encouragement from this hope, and the traitors about his perſon uſe it as an argument to them to perſiſt in their revolt. Shuja Doula is informed, that the Engliſh have actually commenced hoſtilities with the Nabob, nor need I take notice how fatal ſuch a notion might prove to the Nabob and to us, was not Shuja Doula too much engaged with other deſigns to take advantage of the weakneſs of this government.

When I accepted of this commiſſion, I pleaſed myſelf with the hopes of being an inſtrument of reconciling all differences between the Nabob and the Engliſh, and putting an end to all animoſities. This I now find an impoſſible taſk. The gentlemen, who have taken upon them to condemn his promotion, have too publickly proclaimed their diſapprobation of that meaſure, and their hatred to the Nabob, which have been repeated to him, probably with exaggerations. He has been told, that Meſſ. Amyatt, Ellis, and Carnac, have in their letters to their friends in England, uſed every argument to procure an order from the Company, to annul the meaſures taken in favour of him, and repreſented his character in the moſt hateful terms; that Mr. Fullerton was alſo charged to aſſiſt in perſon their project of depoſing him, and that they have ſworn together to his ruin; that they have diſcovered a flaw in his title to the Subaſhip from our treaty, &c. &c. True or falſe the Nabob has received theſe ſtories from their intimate acquaintance, who may have forged a part, but could not have invented the whole.

I had always flattered myſelf with the hopes that the Company's approbation of the revolution

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in favour of Meer Coſſim would have been ſuch, as to have reſtrained the deſigns of the party formed againſt him, and theſe hopes were greatly encouraged by the letter which arrived in the Month of April. But the ſecond, which arrived not a month after, was expreſſed in ſuch ambiguous terms, as might eaſily be conſtrued by a party-ſpirit into a diſapprobation of it.

D,3.—*Extract of the Company's General Letter to* Bengal.

Dated 19 June 1761.

UPON peruſal of the ſaid ſeveral letters and papers, we have the agreeable ſatisfaction of finding, that the great revolution in the Subaſhip therein mentioned has been, and is likely to prove greatly advantageous to the Company. We have not now time to enter into any particulars on this happy event, and can therefore only recommend and leave it to you to act in ſuch manner as ſhall be moſt for the Company's intereſt.

We clearly ſee that this revolution has been happily brought about, principally by the good conduct and addreſs of our Preſident Van Sittart, and we accordingly ſincerely and heartily return him our thanks, for his great ſervices and diſintereſted behaviour on this occaſion.

D,3.a.——*Extract of the Company's General Letter to* Bengal.

Dated 30 Sept. 1761.

THIS is the third revolution in Bengal, wherein the very being of the Company has been, and from their conſequences may ſtill be at a ſtake. Your advancing Jaffeir Aly Cawn to

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to the Subaſhip, in the room of Serajah Doula, was undoubtedly a neceſſary meaſure, as well for the good of the country in general, as the intereſt of the Company in particular. Your afterwards depoſing Jaffeir Aly Cawn, and ſettling Coſſim Aly Cawn in his room, we hope alſo was done with the ſame view, upon this preſumption and confidence, that no other motives whatſoever had any influence upon you. We muſt look on the meaſures purſued on this occaſion as unavoidable; at the ſame time we cannot help obſerving, that it is by the great regard the Company have always had to a faithful obſervance of their agreements; they have acquired, and hitherto preſerved, a reputation with the Natives of India. We could have wiſhed therefore the ſituation of affairs would have admitted keeping terms with Jaffeir Aly Cawn, that even the leaſt handle for a pretence might not have been offered to prejudiced people to make uſe of, to throw any reflection upon the tranſactions.

E, 3. —— *Extract of a* Letter *from Mr.* Haſtings *to the* Governor.

Dated Mongheer, 14 July 1762.

I Informed you ſome time ago, that the natural inference, which might be drawn from the extract of the laſt letter from the Company, was ſo little in favour of the Nabob, or the laſt revolution, that I had evaded giving him a tranſlation of it, and only told him, that the Company had applauded the meaſures which had been taken in his promotion, and recommended the ſtricteſt union and harmony with the new Nabob, for a prevention of the like neceſſity, and for the credit of our faith. Not many days after, the Nabob himſelf

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repeated to me the whole ſubſtance of that extract with ſuch heightenings, as a party ſpirit would naturally give to it, and told me, that Mr. Ellis had declared, that this diſapprobation of the revolution would be followed by an order from the Company to overſet it, and that he expected great changes when the next ſhip arrived. The Nabob's good ſenſe made it no difficult matter for me to ſatisfy him how improbable ſuch an event was; but I mention this only to ſhew, how every occaſion is catched at to ſupport the credit of an inveterate faction; and, I ſuppoſe, this will hardly be attributed to the Nabob's invention, or that of the people about him.

F, 3.—*Copy of a* Letter *from the* Governor *and* Council (*Meſ.* Van Sittart, M'Gwire, *and* Hay) *to Mr.* Haſtings.

Dated 8 July 1762.

WE have received a letter from Mr. Ellis, adviſing us of the Nabob's refuſal of his viſit, and the Preſident at the ſame time acquainted us with the reaſons the Nabob gave you for this refuſal. We have received alſo another letter from Mr. Ellis of the twenty-fifth, adviſing us, that Rajah Nobit Roy, upon his appointment to the Neabut of the Bahar Province, was forbid by the Nabob to pay him the uſual compliment of a viſit.

The ſum of the Nabob's reaſons is this, that having had indignities offered him by Mr. Ellis, and having made public complaints againſt him, he thought it would be abſurd to receive a friendly viſit from him. We mentioned in our laſt letter to you the reaſons given by Mr. Ellis for thoſe proceedings, of which the Nabob ſo much complains,

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plains, viz. his ſending Seapoys to Mongheer, and his ſeizing Coja Antoon. We ſhall not now repeat thoſe reaſons, as it is not our intention to call to mind old ſubjects of diſpute, but rather to ſhew the Nabob through your means the neceſſity of forgetting them, and endeavouring to eſtabliſh a general good underſtanding.

We may ſay, both of the Nabob and Mr. Ellis, that they have been too ready to give credit to reports injurious to each other, and this, it is eaſy to ſee, has been the reaſon why things, in themſelves of little conſequence, have been made objects of ſo violent conteſts. If facts are exaggerated by reports in the compaſs of theſe Provinces, what may we not expect to be ſaid of them in other parts of Indoſtan? Certainly, nothing leſs than that the diſputes between the Nabob and the Engliſh Chief at Patna, foretel a breach of the friendſhip between the two governments, and this may encourage his enemies and our's to attempts, which otherwiſe they would not dare to meditate; nay, this has always been the Nabob's own argument, and a very juſt one, although he now ſeems to conſider it as a private quarrel between him and Mr. Ellis. We think it can by no means be regarded in this light, becauſe in its conſequences it muſt affect the publick; for if ſuch a rooted ill-will between the Nabob and one of the Company's principal ſervants is ſuffered to prevail, the evil cannot but increaſe, and the flame ſpread daily; more of the dependents of each government will inſenſibly adopt the notions of each party, and a ſucceſſion of prejudiced minds will ariſe prepared to take every opportunity of fomenting the quarrel, and rendering it at length irreconcileable. We deſire, therefore, that you will uſe your utmoſt endeavour, by the arguments which we have now mentioned, and all others that may occur

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occur to you, to diſpoſe the Nabob ſeriouſly and heartily to do his part towards the diſpelling of all animoſities; we have as ſtrenuouſly recommended to Mr. Ellis to do his part, ſo that we hope a cordial and friendly intercourſe may in future ſubſiſt between them.

But ſhould this, contrary to our hopes, be found impracticable, we ſhall at leaſt expect, that the diſputes between them be ſo far accommodated as to be concealed from the world, and that all the uſual ceremonies and public marks of reſpect be reciprocally paid and received. So much is abſolutely neceſſary both for the Nabob's reputation and the Company's, and we may add, that the ſafety and tranquillity of the Nabob's government is more particularly concerned. Mr. Ellis, by propoſing a viſit to the Nabob on his arrival at Patna, paid the reſpect due from his ſtation to the rank of the Subah, and we hope the Nabob, after having this our advice explained to him, will not again omit the compliment due from him to a member of this Board.

F, 3.a.—*Copy of a Letter from the Governor and Council* (*Meſſ.* Van Sittart, M'Gwire, *and* Hay) *to Mr.* Ellis.

Dated 8 July 1762.

WE have received your letters of the 23d and 25th inſtant; the firſt, adviſing of the Nabob's refuſing your viſit; the other, of his forbidding Nobut Roy to pay you that compliment upon his appointment to the Neabut of the Bahar Province. Mr. Haſtings tranſmitted to the Preſident by the Nabob's deſire his reaſons for refuſing your viſit; of theſe we ſend you a copy, and purpoſely avoid entering into any debate upon them,

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as, inſtead of recalling paſt diſputes, we are endeavouring to ſhew the Nabob and you, the neceſſity of having them entirely forgot, and a general good harmony eſtabliſhed.

Incloſed, we ſend you a copy of our inſtructions to Mr. Haſtings on this ſubject. The reaſons therein contained, will convince you how much the tranquillity of the country, and conſequently the good of the Company is intereſted in putting an end to theſe animoſities. An intercourſe between the Nabob and you, ſo far as regards your public character, is abſolutely neceſſary, and we ſhall always inſiſt on; but we wiſh for more, and ſtrenuouſly recommend to you, to let nothing be wanting on your part to eſtabliſh a hearty friendſhip between you.

Mr. Ellis, inſtead of complying with ſo ſalutary an advice, perſiſted always in the ſame violent ſentiments, and wrote the following anſwer to the Board.

F, 3. b.——*Copy of a Letter from Mr.* Ellis *to the Governor and Council.*

Dated 23 July 1762.

I HAVE been favoured with your's of the 8th, incloſing an extract of Mr. Haſtings's letter to the Preſident, and a copy of your inſtructions to that gentleman, which I ſincerely wiſh may have the deſired effect, but fear the Nabob has acted too long without controul to liſten now to any advice however ſalutary.

Though I never hope to be on a footing of friendſhip or intimacy with the Nabob, yet knowing how neceſſary it was for the Company's affairs, and more particularly ſo for his own, to ſave appearances, I did not think he would have refuſed an

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an interview, which instead of occasioning a quarrel, as he absurdly observes, might perhaps have laid the foundation of a future good understanding; but it seems he can construe the occasion of complaints that have arisen, either into a publick concern, or a private quarrel with Mr. Ellis, as may best suit his own conveniency.

Any overtures that the Nabob may make towards a reconciliation I shall readily embrace; but after the manner in which I have been treated by him, none can come from me without being greatly derogatory to the publick character, I have at present the honour to bear.

Rajah Nobut Roy has been permitted to pay me the compliment of a visit, which I have returned.

G,3.——*Copy of a Letter from Mr.* Hastings *to the Governor.*

Dated Bauglepoor, 25 April, 1762.

I Beg leave to lay before you a grievance which loudly calls for redress, and will, unless duly attended to, render ineffectual any endeavours to create a firm and lasting harmony between the Nabob and the Company. I mean, the oppression committed under the sanction of the English name, and through the want of spirit in the Nabob's subjects to oppose them. This evil I am well assured is not confined to our dependents alone, but is practised all over the country by people falsely assuming the habits of our Seapoys, or calling themselves our Gomastahs. As on such occasions, the great power of the English intimidates the people from making any resistance; so on the other hand, the indolence of the Bengalees, or the difficulty of gaining access to those who might do them justice, prevents our having knowledge of the oppressions,

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oppreſſions, and encourages their continuance to the great, though unmerited ſcandal of our government.

I have been ſurprized to meet with ſeveral Engliſh flags flying in places which I have paſſed, and on the river I do not believe that I paſſed a boat without one. By whatever title they have been aſſumed (for I could only truſt to the information of my eyes, without ſtopping to aſk queſtions) I am ſure their frequency can bode no good to the Nabob's revenues, the quiet of the country, or the honour of our nation, but evidently tend to leſſen each of them.

A party of Seapoys who were on the march before us, afforded ſufficient proofs of the rapacious and inſolent ſpirit of thoſe people where they are left to their own diſcretion. Many complaints againſt them were made me on the road, and moſt of the petty towns and ſerais were deſerted at our approach, and the ſhops ſhut up from the apprehenſion of the ſame treatment from us.

You are ſenſible, Sir, that it is from ſuch little irregularities, too trivial perhaps for publick complaint, and continually repeated, that the country people are habituated to entertain the moſt unfavourable notions of our government, and by them the Engliſh credit ſuffers much more, than by matters which are made of greater conſequence in the debates between the Nabob and us.

You have already pointed out one method by which the truth of the complaints againſt our Gomaſtahs may be enquired into and redreſſed, which I ſhall not fail to repreſent in a proper manner to the Nabob. But nothing I fear will reach the root of theſe evils, till ſome certain boundary be fixed between the Nabob's authority and our privileges.

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Was I to ſuppoſe myſelf in the place of the Nabob, I ſhould not be at a loſs in what manner to protect my own ſubjects or ſervants from inſults; but whilſt the principle prevails, that no point (however little beneficial to ourſelves) is to be given up to the Nabob, and that his authority ſhould upon every occaſion be checked for the ſecurity of our own; I ſhould hardly venture to propoſe to any one, beſides yourſelf, to reſtrain the power of our Gomaſtahs to the immediate concerns of the Company or their ſervants, to which we ourſelves are limited by our Firmaun and our treaty with the Nabob; and where any perſons aſſuming the Engliſh name are guilty of acts of violence or oppreſſion to any of the Nabob's ſubjects, and within his juriſdiction, that the Magiſtrates take ſuch meaſures as his office and the matters in queſtion may require, for preventing them without making any diſtinction, in ſuch caſes, betwixt our agents and the dependents of the government.

As the power of executing juſtice muſt be lodged ſomewhere, and our ſervants if injured have always the means of appealing, we may be certain, that the magiſtrates will be very cautious how they give any ſuch cauſe for complaint as may endanger their diſmiſſion, which ſhould be inſiſted on as the ſlighteſt puniſhment for any notorious perverſion of juſtice.

With regard to the abuſe of our flag in defrauding the government of its duties, I know no method ſo likely to prove effectual as thoſe which have been repeatedly recommended, and which it is needleſs for me to mention.

I ſhall forbear ſaying any thing fully to the Nabob concerning the complaints againſt our people, till I am favoured with your further opinion on this ſubject, that I may know from thence

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thence how far I am to proceed towards settling this point with the Nabob, and preventing all future difficulties that may arise from the present uncertain and perplexed situation of affairs between us.

H, 3.——*Extract of a Letter from the Governor to Mr.* Hastings.

Dated 2 May 1762.

SINCE I wrote you last I have been favoured with your's of the 18th of April from Dewânserai, 23d from Shahabad, and 25th from Bauglepoor. The observations contained in the last concerning the unjust authority exercised all over the country in the English name deserves immediate attention. Indeed, I have always thought it a great grievance, injurious to the Nabob in his revenues and government, and to us in our reputation. You know too that I have done all in my power to remedy it. I have frequently requested of the Nabob, to make the Darogas of the Chokeys do their duty more carefully, and oblige every boat to produce my Dustuck, or that of the Chief of one of our factories; and where no Dustuck appears, to stop them till they pay the customs.

The Nabob wrote me that the Darogas of his Chokeys were afraid to stop a boat with English colours, and that the Peons in the boats would not stop; whereupon I sent him according to his request thirty Dustucks or Orders under my hand and seal, importing that all boats should be stopt, and either produce their Dustucks, or pay the duties.

Very likely the Darogas of the Chokeys are unfit for their office. They should be men capable of distinguishing a real Dustuck from a counterfeit,

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terfeit, and of judging by the date whether it has been already returned and fallaciouſly made uſe of a ſecond time; to prevent which, an endorſement ſhould be made at every Chokey upon every Duſtuck that paſſes; and where a boat carries Engliſh colours without having a Duſtuck, it ſhould be ſtopt, and the property particularly enquired into; and if it is found to belong to a ſubject of the Nabob, I think he would do right to confiſcate the whole; if to a ſubject of our's, the Daroga ſhould ſend it back with a guard to the firſt Engliſh factory, with a letter to the Chief, deſiring, that the flag might be taken away, and the Proprietors, Peon, or Mangee, who was guilty of the abuſe, puniſhed.

I really can think of no other precautions for putting a ſtop to this evil, unleſs it be to place Chokeys of my own at convenient diſtances, with writers furniſhed with the above-mentioned inſtructions for examining the Duſtucks, &c. and which, if the Nabob thinks it will be uſeful, I am ready to do at ſuch places as he ſhall point out.

The number of the boats ſhould likewiſe be compared with the Duſtuck, and the quantity of goods in each boat examined with as much exactitude as the nature of them will admit; and where it is found to exceed the quantity mentioned in the Duſtuck, the overplus ſhould be confiſcated.

The extravagant power ſet up by our Gomaſtahs, in many parts of the country, is an abuſe equally demanding redreſs; and it would be but juſt and fair to deſire the Nabob to order his Fougedars and other officers to take cognizance of thoſe irregularities, and prevent by force (if neceſſary) their interfering in any affair of the government. Could theſe Fougedars and other officers be depended on, and we be aſſured they would not make uſe of that force to take away the

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the Weavers, and otherwiſe impede the Company's buſineſs; I ſhould immediately adviſe and conſent to this meaſure, which indeed is the natural, and I fear the only effectual remedy, and is what the Nabob has an undoubted right to do. I will try what effect a freſh and ſtrict order to all our Gomaſtahs and ſubordinates may have, towards preventing their interfering in the affairs of the country; and let the Nabob order his officers to be full and particular in repreſenting to me any circumſtances of their miſbehaviour, directing them at the ſame time not to ſuffer the Gomaſtahs or their Peons, to ſeize or judge between any inhabitants of the country excepting the Company's Weavers, nor to take any offices in the country, as Izaradars, Wadadars, &c. Theſe I hope may be ſome ſteps towards redreſſing this grievance; and let the Nabob's officers on their part be cautioned not to oppreſs the Company's Weavers, or in any manner interrupt their buſineſs.

I will order a liſt to be given in of all the Company's Gomaſtahs, with the places of their reſidence from Calcutta, and all the ſubordinates. Theſe may be permitted to have ſuch a flag at the place of their reſidence, but all other Engliſh Gomaſtahs ſhall be forbid to ſet up flags in any part of the country.

An order is already made and publiſhed, forbidding any Europeans from going up the country without firſt applying for leave to the Preſident and Council, and giving ſecurity for their good behaviour, and that they will not meddle in the affairs of the country. At the ſame time we have directed liſts to be given of all that are at preſent in the country by the gentlemen who employ them, and the ſame order we have ſent to all the ſubordinates, and all who cannot produce ſecurity for their good behaviour ſhall be called away.

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These regulations I had an opportunity of forwarding, upon a complaint made against one Mr. Ivie at Raugegunge, who is ordered down to Calcutta for pretending to decide causes between the inhabitants.

Read all this letter to the Nabob, and assure him, I will do what more may be necessary to give him full authority over his government.

I, 3.——*Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Hastings *to the Governor.*

Sarseram, 18 May 1762.

I Explained to the Nabob what you wrote to me concerning the abuse of the English name and authority, and the expedients proposed for their removal, which I extracted from your letter, and gave him written under the following heads.

I. That strict orders be given to all the Drogas of the Chokeys, to require every English boat that passes to produce a Dustuck under the seal of the government, or any Chief of the subordinate factories; and in case of a refusal, that they compel the boat by force to bring to.

II. That every boat with English colours, and not having a Dustuck be stopt; and if the goods be English property, that notice be given to the Chief of the neareſt factory, that it may be inquired into; but if it be the property of a subject of the Sircar, that the Nabob take what notice of it he may think proper.

III. That strict orders be given to the officers and Fougedars of the Sircar, if any English Gomastah commit any act of oppression, or interfere in the affairs of the government, to forbid them; and if they refuse to hear reason, to use force to make them desist.

IV.

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IV. That ſtrict orders have been ſent from the Preſidency, that none of the Gomaſtahs or ſervants of the factories intermeddle with the affairs of the government; and that the officers of the Sircar be likewiſe ſtrictly enjoined not to obſtruct the Company's buſineſs, or oppreſs the people employed in it.

V. That no grants of Wadadarees, Farms, or other offices of the government be allowed to the Company's Gomaſtahs.

VI. That the Company's Gomaſtahs ſhall be allowed an Engliſh flag at the place of their reſidence, but no private Gomaſtahs ſhall have an Engliſh flag, or aſſume any diſtinction from the Engliſh name.

VII. That by an order from the Preſidency, no European ſhall be employed in the country without a permiſſion from the Board, and giving ſecurity that he will not interfere in any affairs of the government.

Upon the two firſt heads the Nabob remarked, that it was to no purpoſe for him to give ſuch orders to his officers though backed with your Duſtucks, ſince both have proved ineffectual to reſtrain the preſumption of our people, who ſeldom chuſe to produce their Duſtucks; and if the officer acts as his duty requires him, a complaint is inſtantly ſent to the next factory of the inſolence of the Chokeys, the indignity offered to our flag, and the infringement of our Duſtucks. Sea poys are diſpatched to ſeize the offender, and others dreading the like treatment let paſs all boats indiſcriminately, and amongſt them many that have no Duſtucks.

In the 3d article I have deviated a little from your inſtructions, as I believe you will be convinced that the Gomaſtahs are not to be kept in awe by threats alone; but ſome coervice power muſt

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be allowed the Magiſtrates, without which, the Gomaſtahs knowing the difficulty of finding out the truth of facts ſo remote from our enquiries, will be continually intermeddling in matters which do not concern them, having no one to oppoſe them. I make no doubt but the officers of the government will be tempted, as they have many times done, to abuſe their authority; but the Company's buſineſs and the Engliſh name will ſuffer leſs by a few inſtances of this kind, than by the unlimited power ſo often aſſumed by our Agents. An example made of the firſt attempts of the Magiſtrates to oppreſs our people will intimidate others; but to have every little grievance on either ſide referred to the Nabob, or yourſelf, will be a ſource of perpetual diſagreement, and the enquiries will be found ſo perplexed, that I doubt if any redreſs will be obtained on either ſide.

Notwithſtanding this alteration, the propoſal is not ſatisfactory to the Nabob, ſo long as a power is lodged in the gentlemen of our factories on every complaint of the Gomaſtahs, to ſend out parties of Seapoys againſt ſuch as they pretend have miſbehaved to them. This evil therefore is firſt to be redreſſed.

To the 5th, the Nabob gives his entire aſſent; and deſires, that the Gomaſtahs and all others under our protection be forbid to take or ſolicit offices under the government, which he has found very detrimental to the peace of the country.

The 6th, I hope expreſſes your intentions, as the private Gomaſtahs have no need of the protection of the Engliſh name to carry on their buſineſs at the Aurungs, nor can claim any privilege above other traders, beſides that of bringing away their goods when provided with the Company's Duſtuck.

To

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To theſe the Nabob deſired another article might be added, though implicitly included in the foregoing, viz. That the Gomaſtahs ſhall not force their goods on his ſubjects againſt their will, or at their own prices, nor compel the workmen to provide goods for them at unreaſonable rates, but that every man be left at his own option to buy or ſell as he finds his advantage in either.

As the Nabob has no objections to any of the means, which you have ſo often propoſed, for preventing the diſputes between his people and the Company's, but only to the want of a proper authority to enforce the execution of them, he deſires, that whatever regulations you may judge neceſſary for the above end, may be drawn up in form, and ſent him with the ſeal of the Company, and if your name added to it be not ſufficient to prevent future cavils, that it be ſigned likewiſe by the reſt of the Council. Such a warrant will limit, beyond the poſſibility of a diſpute, the extent of our privileges and his authority, and point out the means by which he may preſerve his government entire, without incurring the imputation of trampling on the rights of the Company.

K, 3.——*Extract of a* Letter *from the* Governor *to Mr.* Haſtings.

Dated 27 June 1762.

IT is a natural right, which the Nabob has in common with all other governments, to prevent by force, if fair means fail, any injury being done to his ſubjects by any other perſon. It would be almoſt abſurd to give a conſent to this by any public act; and perhaps not quite proper, for fear of encouraging too much the government's people to exerciſe this right ſometimes perhaps in an un-

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juſt cauſe. But wherever unlawful attempts are made by our people, the officers of the government muſt prevent them, by fair means if poſſible; if not oppoſe them by force, and it is what no reaſonable man can complain of.

L, 3.——*Tranſlation of a* Letter *from the* Nabob *to the* Governor.

Received about the Month of May 1762.

YOU write me, that there muſt be miſchievous men about me, who, by their ſlanders, want to ſtir up enmity between me and the Engliſh gentlemen, that I ſhould ſearch out thoſe promoters of diſſention, and bring them to due puniſhment.

Sir, from the time that I entered into an agreement with you, and marched out of the Bengal Province to theſe parts, I never infringed the treaty by obſtructing a ſingle perſon, gentleman, or Seapoy, or boat, or commodity of your's, nor have I ſent a ſingle Peon for the cuſtomary commiſſions from the diſtricts which I granted to the Company, but have entirely left off concerning myſelf about thoſe diſtricts, and have not once wrote to you on any affair relative to them. Since then nothing has been done on my part, which might diſturb the friendſhip and treaty ſubſiſting between us, how can there be any room about my perſon for diſſentions and miſchievous men? And this is the way your gentlemen behave; they make a diſturbance all over my country, plunder the people, injure and diſgrace my ſervants with a reſolution to expoſe my government to contempt, and from the borders of Indoſtan to Calcutta make it their buſineſs to expoſe me to ſcorn. In every Pergunnah and every village, they have eſtabliſhed

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ſtabliſhed ten or twenty new Factories, and ſetting up the colours, and ſhewing the Duſtucks of the Company, they uſe their utmoſt endeavours to oppoſe the ryots, merchants, and other people of the country. The Duſtucks for ſearching the boats, which you formerly favoured me with, and which I ſent to every Chokey, the Engliſhmen by no means regard, but bring ſhame and diſgrace upon my people, holding themſelves in readineſs to beat and abuſe them. Having eſtabliſhed theſe new Factories, they carry on ſuch buſineſs as the Company never heard of, and every Bengal Gomaſtah makes a diſturbance at every Factory, and thinks himſelf not inferior to the Company. In every Pergunnah, every village, and every Factory, they buy and ſell ſalt, betel-nut, ghee, rice, ſtraw, bamboos, fiſh, gunnies, ginger, ſugar, tobacco, opium, and many other things more than I can write, and which I think it needleſs to mention. They forcibly take away the goods, and commodities of the ryots, merchants, &c. for a fourth part of their value, and by ways of violence and oppreſſion they oblige the ryots, &c. to give five rupees for goods which are worth but one rupee; and for the ſake of five rupees they bind and diſgrace an Aſama, who pays me an hundred rupees Malguzaree, and they allow not any authority to my ſervants. Near four or five hundred new Factories have been eſtabliſhed in my dominions, and it is impoſſible to expreſs what diſturbances are made in every Factory, and how the inhabitants are oppreſſed. The officers of every diſtrict have deſiſted from the exerciſe of their functions, ſo that by means of theſe oppreſſions, and my being deprived of my duties, I ſuffer a yearly loſs of near twenty-five lacks of rupees. In this caſe, how can I keep clear of debts? How can I provide for the payment of my tribute

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to the King, and for the expences of my army and my houſhold? In the Pergunnah of Dinagepoor, of which I have appointed and ſent Ramnaut Bahdree collector, beſides the old Factory twenty new ones have been eſtabliſhed in one * Gunge. I have ſent for your information a liſt ſpecifying the number of the Factories, and the names of the Gomaſtahs, which I received from the ſaid collector; and every one of theſe Gomaſtahs has ſuch power that he impriſons the collector, and deprives him of all authority whenever he pleaſes. Therefore I deſire you will ſpeedily put a ſtop to this method of buying and ſelling ſtraw, bamboos, &c. which the Company never practiſed. As I never interfere in any of the diſtricts which I gave up to the Company, it is proper that in like manner you, and the Chiefs, and other Engliſhmen, ſhould not interfere in any of the diſtricts, which by your favour belong to me. By the grace of GOD, I neither have tranſgreſſed, nor do, nor will tranſgreſs the treaty and agreement which I have made; why then do the Chiefs and other Engliſhmen render my government contemptible, and employ themſelves in bringing a loſs upon me? Be kind enough to take theſe matters into conſideration without delay, for they expoſe my government to ſcorn, and are of the greateſt detriment to me.

L, 3. a. —— *Tranſlation of a* Letter *from the* Nabob *to the* Governor.

Received in April 1762.

YOU write me, that "as the Provinces are free "from diſturbance all men have engaged "in trade, that this is a means of benefiting the ryots,

* A large Market.

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" ryots, and rendering the country populous; that " I should fully inform you of the names of all " such as lay aside their trade, and give interrup- " tion to my business, together with the particu- " lars of their proceedings, and that you will pu- " nish them according to their deserts."

It is true, that by the flourishing of trade, and the free intercourse of merchants a country is rendered populous; but the Gomastahs who have gone into the country, on the part of your gentlemen, regardless of what any one says to them, insolently use violent means to carry on their traffick; and wherever a Gunge or Golah has been established they act as Zemindars, Taalucdars, and Renters, and leave my officers no authority; and besides this, they send other people's goods with their own, under the protection of their Dustuck. As you have desired me to write you the particulars of the oppressions of your Gomastahs, after the arrival of Mr. Hastings, I will send you a circumstantial account of them.

L, 3. b.—*Translation of a Letter from* Syed Rejab Aly, *Zemindar of* Burbezzo Pergunnah.

Received about the Middle of the Year 1762.

FROM the beginning, the Company's Factory has been in Beelcoochy, and a cloth business has been carried on there, and I do not neglect doing to the utmost of my power whatever the Gomastahs of the Factory desire, nor was any oppression practised. Whoever traded in copper, toothenague, or cotton, which was sent to the Factory by the Company, traded freely and at the market-price. Now from Calcutta, Dacca, Cheelmary, and Rungamatty, numbers of Englishmen and merchants, and the people of Monsr. Chevalier,

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Chevalier, &c. bring into the Pergunna, copper, toothenague, cotton, tinkall, ſalt, betel-nut, tobacco, rice, muggadroties, Seringa boats, lack, ſticklack, damma, dried fiſh, &c. and all theſe people, aſſuming the name of the Company, force the ryots, who never dealt in ſuch commodities, to purchaſe them at an exorbitant price. Beſides this, they violently exact large ſums for preſents and for their Peons expences, and take at a low rate whatever oil, &c. they buy. By means of theſe oppreſſions, the merchants, picars, ryots, &c. of the Pergunnah have taken to flight, and the Hauts, Gauts, Gunges, and Golahs are entirely ruined. Moreover, they prevent the ryots from carrying on their buſineſs, they rob and plunder them wherever they meet them on the road, and giving colours and certificates to the merchants of other Pergunnahs, who formerly paid duties, they will not ſuffer any to be taken from them, and the Zemindar's people reverencing the name of the Company cannot obſtruct them. Through theſe oppreſſions the revenues of the government have been abſolutely ruined, and the Company's buſineſs obſtructed. Being without redreſs, I ſend you a Vackeel, with a repreſentation of the ſtate of the Pergunna, he will inform you of all particulars. I hope, that regarding my diſtreſſed condition, you will ſend a Seapoy with a Duſtuck to take my country under his protection, and will order the Gomaſtahs of Beelcoochy Factory, to put a ſtop to the power of ſuch as trade by force and oppreſſion, to make every one refund what profits he has exacted by violence, to put oppreſſion and injuſtice to flight, and to have the Company's buſineſs carried on as formerly. I have acquainted the Vackeel with the particulars, and he will inform you of them.

L, 3.e.—*Tranſla-*

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L, 3.c.—*Tranſlation of a* Letter *from* Doolabram *to the* Nabob.

THE trade of the ſalt and buttywood in the Chucla of Sillet, has for a long while been granted to me, in conſideration of which I pay a yearly rent of forty thouſand caouns of cowries; but now Mr. . . . . and Chundermun, and Coja Bercab Engliſh Gomaſtahs, having brought a large quantity of ſalt into the aforeſaid Chucla, oblige my Gomaſtahs by force and oppreſſion to purchaſe it at an exorbitant price; and having by violent means taken the buttywood trade into their own hands, they have put a ſtop to my buſineſs, whereby I ſuffer a very great loſs; yet the Fougedar has oppreſſively exacted from me the uſual rents, plundering my houſe, and forcing me from my home, and my Gomaſtahs, by reaſon of the oppreſſions of the Engliſh Gomaſtahs, and the rigor and violence with which the Malguzaree is exacted, have taken to flight. I therefore hope, you will do me the favour to order a Perwana to be wrote to the Fougedar, either to put a ſtop to the power of the Engliſh Gomaſtahs, or elſe not to demand the rents from me.

M, 3. —— *Copy of a* Letter *from Sergeant* Brego *to the* Governor.

Dated Backergunge, 25 May 1762.

THE ſituation of affairs at this place obliges me to apply to your honour, for inſtructions for my farther proceedings.

My inſtructions which I brought here were, that in caſe any Europeans or their ſervants committed any diſorders they were to be ſent to Calcutta, not-

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notwithſtanding any pretence they ſhall make for ſo doing.

Notwithſtanding the rigour of theſe orders, I have ever made it my buſineſs (when any thing trifling happened) to endeavour by gentle means to perſuade the gentlemens Gomaſtahs here to act in a peaceable manner, which although repeated ſeveral times has had no effect, but on the contrary, has occaſioned their writing complaints of me to their reſpective maſters, that I obſtruct them in their buſineſs and ill uſed them, and in return I have received menacing letters from ſeveral gentlemen, threatening, if I interfere with their ſervants, to uſe ſuch meaſures as I may repent; nor have the gentlemen only done this, their very Gomaſtahs have made it publick here, that in caſe I ſtop them in any proceeding, they will uſe the ſame methods, for the truth of which I have good proofs.

Now, Sir, I am to inform you, what I have obſtructed them in; this place was of great trade formerly, but now brought to nothing by the following practices.

A gentleman ſends a Gomaſtah here to buy or ſell; he immediately looks on himſelf as ſufficient to force every inhabitant either to buy his goods, or ſell him their's; and on refuſal (in caſe of noncapacity) a flogging or confinement immediately enſues. This is not ſufficient even when willing; but a ſecond force is made uſe of, which is to engroſs the different branches of trade to themſelves, and not to ſuffer any perſons to buy or ſell the articles they trade in, and if the country people do it, then a repetition of their authority is put in practice; and again, what things they purchaſe, they think the leaſt they can do is to take them for a conſiderable deal leſs than another merchant, and oftentimes refuſe paying that, and my

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my interfering occaſions an immediate complaint.

Theſe and many other oppreſſions more than can be related, which are daily uſed by the Bengal Gomaſtahs, is the reaſon that this place is growing deſtitute of inhabitants. Every day numbers leave the town to ſeek a reſidence more ſafe, and the very markets, which before afforded plenty, do hardly now produce a thing of uſe, their Peons being allowed to force poor people; and if the Jemmadar offers to prevent it, he is threatened to be uſed in the ſame manner.

Before, juſtice was given in the publick, but now every Gomaſtah is become a judge, and every one's houſe a Cutcherry; they even paſs ſentences on the Jemidars themſelves, and draw money from them for pretended injuries, ſuch as a quarrel with ſome of their Peons, or their having, as they aſſert, ſtole ſomething, which is more likely to have been taken by their own people; but allowing they were robbed, I believe no Gomaſtah's authority extends ſo far as to take his own ſatisfaction on the government.

Having thus far acquainted your Honour with the behaviour of the Gomaſtahs here, I am to requeſt your Honour's intereſt, that in caſe I am to put your orders in execution, I may be bore harmleſs therein; and I beg leave to conclude, being with all reſpects, &c.

M, 3. a.——*Tranſlation of a Letter from* Mahomed Aly *to the Governor.*

Received the beginning of Oct. 1762.

HIS Excellency, the Nabob, was pleaſed to appoint me Collector of the Pergunnahs in the province of Dacca; but ſeveral people of that

that place have ingratiated themſelves in the favour of the gentlemen of Luckypoor and Dacca factories, and greatly detrimented the affairs. To this purport his Excellency has wrote you, and directed me to acquaint you with every thing relating to the gentlemen of the factory. Therefore I now lay the whole before you, and ſend by Mirza Myſudeen a Perwanah from his Excellency which he will preſent to you. In the firſt place, a number of merchants have made friends with the people of the factory, hoiſt Engliſh colours on their boats, and carry away their goods under pretence of their being Engliſh property, by which means the Shawbunders and other cuſtoms are greatly detrimented. Secondly, The Gomaſtahs of Luckypoor and Dacca factories oblige the merchants, &c. to take Tobacco, Cotton, Iron, and ſundry other things, at a price exceeding that of the Bazar, and then extort the money from them by force; beſides which, they take diet-money for the Peons, and make them pay a fine for breaking their agreement. By theſe proceedings the Aurungs and other places are ruined. Thirdly, The Gomaſtahs of Luckypoor factory have taken the Taalucdar's Taalucs from the Takſeeldar by force for their own uſe, and will not pay the rent. At the inſtigation of ſome people they, on a matter of complaint, ſend Horſe and Seapoys with a Duſtuck into the country, and there create diſturbance. They ſtation Chokeys at different places, and whatever they find in poor people's houſes, they cauſe to be ſold and take the money. By theſe diſturbances the country is ruined, and the Ryots cannot ſtay in their houſes nor pay the Malguzaree. In many places Mr. Chevalier has by force eſtabliſhed new markets and built new houſes, and has made falſe Seapoys on his own part, who ſeize whom they want and fine them.

By

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By his forcible proceedings many Hauts, Gauts, and Pergunnas are ruined, and the Malguzary of the government ſuffers greatly; I therefore hope you will ſend, for the ſecurity of the Ryots, two Europeans or Seapoys with a Duſtuck, which may put an end to theſe proceedings, and tend to the benefit of the inhabitants. Pleaſe to ſend letters to the Chiefs of Dacca and Luckypoor, to write to their Gomaſtahs in the diſtricts not to oblige the merchants to take Tobacco, Cotton, &c. and not in any reſpect to detriment the Aurungs, and then the Sircar will get the revenues. Other matters Mirza Myſudeen will relate to you; you will pleaſe to conſider them, and then the affairs of the government will proſper.

M, 3. b. —— *Copy of a Letter from Mr.* Ellis *to the Governor and Council.*

Dated 7 Oct. 1762.

TO prevent any blame being hereafter thrown on us for the deficiency of our inveſtment, we are now to inform you, that at Iſhanabad, the principal cloth Aurung, our Gomaſtahs, Dilolls, &c. have been peremptorily ordered to deſiſt from purchaſing, and quit the place. Upon their non-compliance, they have been threatened and abuſed in the moſt vile and groſs terms, and the waſhermen employed in whitening our cloths have been actually beat, and Peons put on them to prevent their going on in their buſineſs.

Rajah Nobit Roy (to whom our Chief has twice complained of theſe proceedings) declares, that the perſon who thus inſults us, and impedes the Company's buſineſs, is independent of him, ſo that it would ſeem he is ſent by the Nabob merely for this purpoſe.

If

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If ſuch inſolence is ſuffered to paſs unnoticed, we can have no hopes of compleating our inveſtment; for who will ſerve us, whilſt they thereby ſubject themſelves to ſuch ſevere and ignominious treatment from the country government.

For the carrying on the Company's buſineſs, it is evident, we muſt be obliged to repel force by force, and ſhall do ſo, unleſs we receive your Honour's, &c. orders to the contrary.

M,3.c. —— *Copy of the Reſolutions of the Board, Meſ.* Van Sittart, Amyatt, M'Gwire, Hay, *and* Watts, *on the foregoing Letter.*

18 Oct. 1762.

AGREED, we write immediately the following anſwer; that we incloſe a letter from the Preſident to the Nabob on the ſubject of their complaints, and hope it will be effectual in removing all interruptions in the Company's buſineſs; but at all events, as we have it ſufficiently in our power to procure ſatisfaction for any injury that may be done the intereſt of our employers, they are on no account to make uſe of force without our expreſs directions; that they do not mention in their letter that they made any application to the Nabob to put a ſtop to the difficulties they repreſent, and which certainly they ought to have done when they were informed, that the perſon they complained of was independent of the Naib of Patna. At leaſt it ſhould have occurred to them, that ſuch application was neceſſary before they ſhould propoſe to make uſe of force.

M,3.d.—*Extract*

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M,3.d.——*Extract of a Letter from the Gentlemen at* Luckypoor *to the Governor and Council.*

Dated 14 Oct. 1762.

WE must beg leave to observe to you, that within these few days every boat which we have sent out of the river, has been stopt at the different Chokeys notwithstanding they have the Chief's Dustuck; our Gomastahs and people confined and used ill, and a very exorbitant duty demanded, and our servants in general greatly insulted all over the country. Upon our sending to some of these places to enquire the reason of this extraordinary behaviour, answer was given, that they had orders from the Nabob to stop and demand duties from every English boat that passed, and on no account to let them go free, as the English Dustuck was now of no consequence in the country; and for this purpose the force at every Chokey is augmented. This has occasioned an entire stoppage to our trade, greatly to the detriment of our private fortunes, as we have now large quantities of goods detained at the different Chokeys, which we cannot get released, unless we submit to pay the extravagant custom they require; and were we to do that, our boats are liable to be stopt at the very next Chokey, and the same duty again demanded. Of these circumstances we think it necessary to inform you, and hope speedy measures will be taken to procure us redress. We are under daily apprehensions, that a custom will be demanded on our cloth purchases, which must be of great prejudice to our honourable employers.

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M, 3.c.——Extract of a Letter from the Chief and Council at Chittagong *to the Governor and Council.*

Dated 14 Oct. 1762.

WE laſt night received a letter from the gentlemen of Dacca, adviſing us, that the extraordinary inſolence of the natives in every part of their diſtricts, has given them the greateſt reaſon to apprehend troubles in the country, and that the natives ſeem to confirm theſe ſurmiſes by their own declarations; that their trade is almoſt put an entire ſtop to, their flag uſed with contempt, and their privileges ridiculed; that this being their preſent ſituation, they requeſt we will let them have another company of Seapoys for the protection of our honourable maſters property at their factory; that the company appointed there are very ſickly, and many men unfit for actual ſervice; that the ſooner we ſend them this detachment the better, as alſo ſome ammunition; that the company ſhall again be returned, when their affairs are put upon a better footing. In conſequence of theſe advices we have ordered a company of Seapoys with ſome ammunition to proceed to Dacca with all expedition, which we hope will meet with your approbation. At the ſame time we alſo received a letter from the gentlemen at Luckypoor, requeſting a ſupply of ammunition, which we have ordered to be ſent.

We muſt obſerve to you, that within theſe few days paſt we have received advice from our Gomaſtahs in different parts of the country, that our buſineſs is entirely put a ſtop to by the Nabob's people, and our boats not ſuffered to paſs the Chokeys, the Zemindars demanding very conſiderable

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considerable duties to be first paid them; declaring, they have orders from Cossim Aly Cawn so to do; and unless we use force to prevent it, they will see his directions strictly complied with. Several of our boats are now lying confined at different Chokeys.

M,3.f.——*Extract of a Letter from the Chief and Council at* Dacca *to the Governor and Council.*

Dated 8 Oct. 1762.

WE think it our duty to inform you, that the outrages committed in these parts by the government's people, for this month past, have arrived to such a height, as to put almost a total stop to our business. At every Chokey our boats are stopt, the people insulted, and the flag used with the utmost and most gross contempt. Our advices from Sillet give us the same intelligence, further adding, that Muchulcas have been taken from many inhabitants, prohibiting them on no account to have any connections with the English. As this spirit of insolence increases to a very surprising degree, and we have daily the mortification to hear of repeated insults and violences offered to our privileges, we are under an apprehension, that the Company's business will in a few days share the same fate as all private has. To prevent and remedy these evils, we must depend upon the measures you may take in consequence of this information.

As appearances are so very unpromising, we have wrote to the gentlemen of Chittagong for a reinforcement of a company of Seapoys, which shall be again returned them when affairs begin to clear up.

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M, 3.g—*Extract from a* Conſultation *of the eighteenth of* October, (*Preſent Meſ.* Van Sittart, Amyatt, M'Gwire, Hay *and* Watts.)

AGreed, we write to Dacca, in anſwer to their letter of the eighth inſtant, that we muſt needs ſay from the information of the above letters *, there is occaſion to fear their Gomaſtahs and agents have made uſe of very unwarrantable practices in their trade, and perhaps the ſeveral diſputes and interruptions they complain of have been owing to that cauſe; but as we are always able and willing, when the neceſſity of circumſtances may require, to procure them redreſs for any injuries they may ſuffer in their trade or otherwiſe, we direct, that they forbear making uſe of force without our permiſſion and orders, and therefore deſire they will return to Chittagong immediately the company of Seapoys which they have wrote for from thence; and if any complaints of interruptions in their buſineſs are hereafter made by their Gomaſtahs, let Mr. Cartier ſend a perſon to enquire into the truth of the affair, with a letter to the proper officer of the government to deſire he will put a ſtop to ſuch obſtructions; that incloſed are letters from the Preſident to Jeſſarut Cawn the Naib, and Mahomed Aly the collector of the revenues, which we hope will prevent any farther diſorders, at leaſt until the Preſident can make the neceſſary regulations in concert with the Nabob: that the abovementioned copies of letters we have forwarded to them for their information, and reply in caſe there ſhould be any facts in them miſrepreſented; and we deſire they will ſend on their

* Mahomed Aly's letter, (vide page 205.) and ſome other letters to the ſame purport.

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their parts a particular ſtate of their complaints to the Preſident, who will take the proper meaſures to obtain them ſatisfaction and indemnification for all loſſes and damages; that they muſt likewiſe take effectual care that none of their Gomaſtahs or agents do in future uſe any kind of force or authority in carrying on their trade, leſt the diſputes occaſioned by ſuch practices ſhould in the end affect the Company's buſineſs; neither muſt their Gomaſtahs be allowed to ſet themſelves up as magiſtrates in the country, in hearing diſputes between the inhabitants, impoſing fines, &c.

Agreed, we likewiſe add to the Luckypoor letter the ſeveral inſtructions contained in the above letter to Dacca, to regulate themſelves by, in caſe any diſputes ſhould happen with them.

M, 3.h.——*Extract of a* Conſultation *of the firſt of* November 1762. (*Preſent Meſ.* Amyatt, M'Gwire, Hay, *and* Watts.)

AGreed, to write an anſwer to Luckypoor, referring them to our letter of the eighteenth of October, for directions how to regulate themſelves with regard to the obſtructions they complain of, till ſuch time as the Preſident can arrive with the Nabob; and inquire into and ſettle theſe diſputes on a ſolid plan for the future ſafety and freedom of our trade; deſiring them, in the mean time, to ſend us an account of the duties they have uſually paid, and the freſh cuſtoms which are now demanded for the Preſident's guidance in ſettling the matter.

Agreed, to write to Chittagong, adviſing them in anſwer to the above letter, that as the Preſident is gone on a viſit to the Nabob, and intends to enquire very particularly into, and ſettle all the diſputes of the nature they complain of, we deſire

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they will ſend us a particular account of their complaints, what was the amount of the former duties, and what freſh cuſtoms are now demanded, for his (the Preſident's) guidance in ſo doing; but that, in the mean time, we muſt forbid their making uſe of force to redreſs themſelves without our poſitive directions: that regarding the diſputes at Dacca, we have ſent the gentlemen their orders and directions under the eighteenth of October.

N, 3.——*Copy of a* Letter *from the* Governor *to the* Council.

Dated 9 November 1762.

I Find, that the interruptions, which the gentlemen at Chittagong, Dacca, and Luckypoor, have met with, for ſome weeks paſt, are owing to the bad diſpoſition of Mahomed Aly, the perſon laſt appointed by the Nabob to collect the rents of that part of the country. Syed Mahomed Cawn, the deputy governor of Moorſhedabad, expreſſes as much reſentment againſt that man as we do ourſelves; and aſſures me, that he has repreſented him in ſuch a light to the Nabob, that he is perſuaded he will be immediately diſmiſſed from his office. This is a point I ſhall urge to the Nabob if it is not done before I arrive at Mongheer; and farther, that he be puniſhed for his inſolence, and obliged to make ſatisfaction for all loſſes which may have been incurred by the delays he has occaſioned. In the mean time, I have the honour to tranſmit you four orders from Syed Mahomed Cawn to the ſaid collector, warning him of the bad conſequences of his preſent conduct, and charging him not to obſtruct the buſineſs of our Factories; I ſend likewiſe one from

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from myself. These, forwarded to the respective Factories, will, I hope, remove all obstructions, and, on the other hand, Syed Mahomed Cawn desires, that our gentlemen will take all possible care to prevent their Gomastahs and agents from interfering in the business of the government, or using force in buying or selling.

I have not yet the Nabob's answer concerning the disputes between the uncle and nephew for the Zemindary of Baboopour. As soon as I receive it, I shall forward it to you, that you may give the necessary directions to the Chief, &c. at Lucky-poor.

The answer I have received from the Nabob to Mr. Ellis's complaint, I now inclose with a translation. I think it would be proper to send a copy to that gentleman with directions to apply to the Naib at Patna, if in future he should meet with any interruptions in his business; and if the Naib either refuses, or has not authority to remove them, then to apply to the Nabob himself, from whom, if he does not obtain such redress and assistance as the case may require, then to make his representation to the Board, with copies of his letters to the government, and his answers received. By this we shall be saved the trouble of hearing complaints, except in cases where our interposition becomes really necessary.

O, 3. —— *Translation of a* Letter *from the* Nabob *to the* Governor.

Dated 1 November 1762.

I Have received with great pleasure your friendly letter. You write, that "you learn from "Mr. Ellis, the Chief of the Factory at Patna, "that cloths have been provided for many years

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" at the Aurung of Johanabad for the Compa-
" ny; now Perva Roy, the Aumil of that place,
" obſtructs the weavers in providing the cloths,
" and when they are made, hinders the waſher-
" men from dreſſing and waſhing them, to the
" great prejudice of the Company's buſineſs; and
" you deſire, that I will give ſtrict orders to the Au-
" mil not to moleſt the Company's Gomaſtahs,
" and to aſſiſt them on every occaſion."

Sir, wherever that gentleman has an opportunity he fails not to make complaints of his buſineſs. As he has found my officers in no inſtance faulty, he has wrote to you the impertinences and complaints of the waſhermen. You well know, that the waſhermen pay no duties, and that the Aumils have no authority to interrupt them, or prevent their waſhing and dreſſing the cloths. Was this affair really true, he would have informed Rajah Nobit Roy of it, and he would immediately have wrote to the Aumil about it; but as it is altogether without foundation, he chuſes to make a falſe complaint to you. Do you yourſelf conſider this affair. Nevertheleſs, I have ſent ſtrict orders to the Rajah to write to the Aumil, that he on no account obſtruct the currency of the Company's buſineſs, and that on application from the Gomaſtahs of the Factory he affords them due aid and aſſiſtance.

The Board having received the accounts of duties on private inland trade from Luckypoor, ſent the ſame to the Preſident for his guidance in ſettling that point, with the following letter.

P, 3.—*Copy*

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P, 3.—*Copy of a Letter from the* Council *to the* Governor.

Dated 15 Nov. 1762.

WE have received your letter of the ninth inſtant, and are thereby glad to find, that the interruptions of the trade, which have happened towards Dacca, Luckypoor, and Chittagong, are only apparently owing to the bad conduct and ill diſpoſition of the collector Mahomed Aly. We make no doubt therefore, but a repreſentation from you to the Nabob of this man's bad behaviour will be a means of obtaining ample ſatisfaction and reſtitution for all loſſes ſuſtained in that quarter; and as we hear, that the trade in the countries of Purnea and Rungpoor has likewiſe met with great interruptions, we muſt beg leave particularly to recommend to your attention the getting theſe obſtructions alſo removed, and obtaining retaliation for the loſſes of any individuals who may make their complaints to you.

We have forwarded to Dacca the orders to be delivered to Mahomed Aly, and have deſired the gentlemen there to write to Luckypoor, and Chittagong, of the receipt and tenor of theſe orders, and afterwards of the effect they may have upon Mahomed Aly's conduct.

We have under this date wrote to Patna with a copy of the Nabob's letter, and directions agreeable to what you adviſe; but we muſt beg leave to obſerve, that the terms in which the Nabob makes mention of Mr. Ellis are indecent and very improper, and ought not to be encouraged. We have too good an opinion of Mr. Ellis's veracity to ſuppoſe that he would advance a falſity to the Board; and we hope therefore, that you will endeavour to prevent ſuch indecencies from paſſing in

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in future, when we are treating with the Nabob on public matters.

Inclosed we transmit you an Extract from a Luckypoor letter, explaining the Shawbunder duties, which they have always paid, and the nature of the fresh extortions which are now demanded, *which we imagine may be of service to you in finally settling these matters upon a solid plan.*

P,3.a.——*Extract of a* Letter *from the* Gentlemen *at* Luckypoor *to the* Board.

Dated 6 Nov. 1762.

THE duties, we have hitherto paid to the Shawbunder, are as follows:

	R.	*A.*	*P.*	
On salt *	9 :	14 :	3	*per* 100 maunds.
On tobacco †	0 :	4 :	0	*per* maund.

On this first article, we believe we have paid rather more than the Dacca Factory, but hope you will get it settled on an equal footing. With regard to the fresh customs now demanded, the Chokeys do not require any stipulated sum, but fleece our Gomastahs and people of all they can; and if our boats are freed from one Chokey, they are sure to be stopped at the next, and our servants confined, and treated very ill. The instant we had advice of our boats being stopped at these places, we sent to them to know the reason, and desire their release; but answer was always given, that

* The prime cost of an hundred maunds of salt may be from sixty to eighty rupees.

† The prime cost of a maund of tobacco may be from two to three rupees.

N. B. Sixteen annaes make a rupee.

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that they had orders from the Nabob for ſo doing, and therefore could not releaſe them.

Q. 3.—*Extract of a Letter from the* Governor *to the* Council.

INcloſed, I ſend for your peruſal two Perſian letters. . . One from Mr. Cartier to Mahomed Aly the collector of the Dacca diſtricts; which, if I underſtand it right, (for the expreſſions are rather obſcure) is wrote in a very improper ſtile, and tends to encourage and promote that evil which we have taken ſo much pains to remedy, I mean a jealouſy and diſtruſt between us and the Nabob. I requeſt, you will be pleaſed to call on Mr. Cartier, for an explanation of his meaning, and give him ſuch a caution on the occaſion as to you ſhall ſeem neceſſary. . . . . The other from Meſſ. Johnſtone, Hay, and Bolts to Sheer Aly Cawn, Fougedar of Purnea, endorſed by Mr. Bolts in Engliſh, and written I imagine by him, in the name of the partnerſhip. Whoever reads this letter muſt naturally conclude no other government ſubſiſted amongſt us, ſince it was left to Mr. Bolts to aſſert the privileges of the Firmaund, and vindicate, in the name of the Engliſh, the freedom of the Company's Duſtuck. Such notions propagated in the country muſt needs be prejudicial to the Company's affairs by weakening their government; and it is for this reaſon, the Company have forbid letters to be written to the country government by any perſon, excepting the Preſident, or with his approbation. I never refuſed to apply for redreſs for any grievance that the gentlemen in the ſervice, and all other inhabitants of the ſettlement have applied to me about; and in caſe of my illneſs, or abſence, Mr. Amyatt was ready to give them the ſame aſſiſtance. I muſt therefore recommend

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recommend to you to inflict ſuch cenſure or puniſhment on Mr. Bolts as ſhall ſeem to you neceſſary for preventing ſuch irregularities in future. I could wiſh alſo, that it were made a rule for the Chiefs of the ſubordinate Factories and all others, when they write letters to the country government, to ſign them, that, in caſe of their being produced afterwards, they may be known to be authentick.

Q. 3. a. — *Tranſlation of a Letter from Mr.* Cartier *to* Mahomed Aly.

SEveral Chokydars, and Cutwauls, and collectors, and Zemindars, and other officers in the town, and its dependencies, are guilty of violent proceedings towards the Gomaſtahs and people of the Engliſh Company and gentlemen, rob and plunder, and regard not the honour of the Engliſh flag and Duſtuck. The news of this has reached my ears. As the Chiefſhip of the Factory here belongs to me, therefore, for the ſake of juſtice, and to eſtabliſh the Company's buſineſs, I acquaint you with theſe proceedings, and deſire you will in anſwer inform me why ſuch proceedings have happened; yet I am perſuaded you are not the author of them, and much leſs the Nabob. As you are acquainted with the ſecrets of this affair, I therefore ſend to you for a full and proper explanation of it. You know what a diſturbance will ariſe between us, and, by the grace of God, you have ſeen and will ſee what our ſtrength and power has ſhewn itſelf, and will ſhew itſelf. Your prudence, and the care and preſervation of your greatneſs, would dictate to you to turn out the diſturbers; but by turning them out the credit and power of *the high name* will be leſſened. I hope you will write me the particulars of all theſe oppreſſions,

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preſſions, that I may be acquainted with the whole proceedings, and may likewiſe know whether you are a friend or not. As circumſtances are repreſented erroneouſly by Vackeels, I have therefore committed them to writing.

Q, 3. b.——*Tranſlation of a Letter from Meſſ.* Johnſtone, Hay, *and* Bolts, *to* Meer Sheer Aly Cawn.

OUR Gomaſtah Ramchurn-doſs being gone into thoſe parts meets with obſtructions from you in whatever buſineſs he undertakes; moreover, you have publiſhed a prohibition to this effect, that whoever ſhall have any dealings with the Engliſh, you will ſeize his houſe, and lay a fine upon him. In this manner have you prohibited the people under your juriſdiction. We were ſurpriſed at hearing of this affair, becauſe that the Royal Firmaund, which the Engliſh nation is poſſeſſed of, is violated by this proceeding; but the Engliſh will by no means ſuffer with patience their Firmaund to be broke through. We therefore expect, that upon the receipt of this letter, you will take off the order you have given to the Ryots; and in caſe of your not doing it, we will certainly write to the Nabob in the name of the Engliſh, and ſend for ſuch an order from him, that you ſhall reſtore fully and entirely whatever loſs the Engliſh have ſuſtained, or ſhall ſuſtain by this obſtruction, and that you ſhall repent having thus interrupted our buſineſs in ſpite of the Royal Firmaund. After reading this letter we are perſuaded you will deſiſt from interrupting it, will act agreeably to the rules of friendſhip, and ſo that your amity may appear, and will by no means ſtop the Company's Duſtuck.

R, 3.—*Copy*

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R, 3.——*Copy of a Letter from the Governor and Mr.* Haſtings *to the Council.*

Dated 15 Dec. 1762.

WE have had many conferences with the Nabob on the ſubject of the late complaints, which appear to have been chiefly occaſioned by the private inland trade, or the trade from place to place in the country. He enlarged much on the licentiouſneſs and oppreſſion exerciſed by our Gomaſtahs, eſpecially in thoſe diſtant parts of the province where his government is leſs eſtabliſhed, and too remote for our enquiries into their behaviour. He urged, that the trade of thoſe parts conſiſted chiefly in articles produced and ſold in the country, from which former Nabobs had always reſtrained all Europeans, and to which he did not conceive that we could claim any right from our Firmaund.

We agree with the Nabob in opinion, that the true intent and natural meaning of the Firmaund, granted to the Company, was to give to them and their ſervants a free trade, clear of all cuſtoms, in all articles of commerce to be imported or exported by ſhipping. From ſuch commerce a mutual benefit is derived to our country and to this; but the trade from place to place in the country in ſalt, betel-nut, tobacco, and other commodities produced here, bringing no general benefit to the country, but to particulars only who had the ſame in their hands; we do not think the Firmaund can be underſtood to include them within the privilege of the Duſtuck, or to grant us a right to trade therein

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in on * any other footing than the natives themſelves; that is, paying the uſual cuſtoms to the government; for if we have a right to trade therein cuſtom-free, and the natives muſt pay cuſtoms, it follows, that no one but ourſelves could carry on any trade, which we cannot ſuppoſe the Firmaund intended.

It is fact, that the Nabobs of theſe provinces did formerly reſtrain the Europeans from carrying on this trade upon any footing, and by farming out the ſeveral articles to particular merchants, drew to themſelves a conſiderable revenue.

After the defeat and death of Serâjah Doula, and the eſtabliſhment of Jaffier Aly Cawn in the Subaſhip, by the aſſiſtance of the Engliſh, we began to take a ſhare of this trade, which ſhare has been from day to day increaſing. It has however always been a ſubject of diſpute with the country government, our right never having been admitted by them, nor regularly claimed and eſtabliſhed by us; and the government's duties have generally been paid.

But

* The Company in their anſwer to the complaints of the Dutch, page 36, ſeem plainly to declare that this is their opinion. Their words are as follows:

The acceptance of this grant (for the ſole purchace of ſalt-petre) by our ſervants, they complain of as injurious to them, and as inconſiſtent with that free trade to which they claim a right under the Mogul's Firmaund.

In ſupport of this meaſure we might obſerve, that thoſe Firmaunds, general as they are, are not to be conſtrued univerſal, but to be underſtood with this limitation, that they do not operate to the prejudice of any ſubſiſting right or uſage, much leſs of ſuch rights as could not be aboliſhed without a conſiderable diminution of the publick revenues. Whatever article of trade therefore has been ordinarily monopolized and granted in form, it might be contended, may ſtill be ſo enjoyed and granted without infringement of thoſe Firmaunds; the deſign of which was, to admit European traders to the ſame freedom of trading with the Mogul's own ſubjects, and ſurely not to a better.

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But not content with this, the Engliſh Gomaſtahs in different parts have lately begun to inſiſt upon this trade as a Firmaund privilege equally with the foreign trade, and refuſed to pay any cuſtoms. The government's people on their part demanded the cuſtoms, and upon refuſal ſtopt the goods; and this conteſt has been the occaſion of many of the complaints received by us and the Nabob.

As on the one hand, we do not ſee any reaſon why the Engliſh gentlemen and other inhabitants of Calcutta, and the ſubordinate Factories, ſhould carry on the inland trade with the Company's Duſtuck, or in any reſpect more advantageouſly than the country merchants; ſo on the other hand, we think it would be a great hardſhip, if we and all belonging to us were not admitted upon an equality with the merchants and inhabitants of other parts of Bengal, and ſuffered to trade on equal terms in all commodities, and in all places, provided our agents and Gomaſtahs do not ſet up for magiſtrates in the country, and carry on their buſineſs by force and oppreſſion. Practices of this ſort in many of the Engliſh agents and Gomaſtahs, and an abuſe on the part of the Nabob's officers of the power put into their hands for the reſtraint of ſuch practices, have been the cauſes of the many complaints lately received.

In theſe ſentiments the regulations we have propoſed to the Nabob for fixing the manner of carrying on this trade in future, and preventing any diſputes between his officers and our agents and Gomaſtahs, are as follows:

S, 3.—I. That for all trade imported or to be exported by ſhipping, the Company's Duſtucks ſhall be granted, and it ſhall paſs unmoleſted and free of cuſtoms as uſual.

II. For

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II. For all trade from one place in the country to another in commodities produced in the country, as ſalt, betel-nut, tobacco, &c. the Company's Duſtuck ſhall not be granted, but it ſhall go with the Duſtuck of the Buckſhbunder, Shahbunder, or other officer of the country government.

III. That at the time of taking out the ſaid Duſtuck, and before the diſpatch of the goods, the duties ſhall be paid according to the rates which ſhall be particularly ſettled and annexed to this agreement.

IV. That the ſaid duties ſo to be paid before exportation ſhall be the whole that are to be paid, ſo that after the diſpatch of the goods nothing ſhall be paid at any Chokeys in the road, nor at the place of ſale.

V. That all goods being furniſhed either with the Company's Duſtuck, or that of the government, ſhall meet with no obſtruction or delay. The guards and Chokeys on the road ſhall have nothing more to do than to demand a ſight of the Duſtuck, unleſs they ſhall obſerve the boats to be laden with a larger quantity of goods than are mentioned in the Duſtuck, or with other ſorts of goods than thoſe mentioned in the Duſtuck; in which caſe they are to give immediate notice to the neareſt Engliſh Factory, as well as to the neareſt officer of the government, that orders may be ſent to have a ſtrict examination, but they are not to detain them in the road.

VI. If any one ſhall attempt to paſs goods without a Duſtuck, either from the government or the Company, or ſhall clandeſtinely procure a Company's Duſtuck to paſs ſalt, tobacco, or other produce of the country, from place to place for inland trade, ſuch goods ſhall be ſeized and confiſcated. The guards and Chokeys in the road are

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to ſtop them, and to give notice to the neareſt Engliſh Factory, as well as the neareſt officer of the government.

VII. If any perſon not having a Duſtuck ſhall attempt to paſs boats or goods clandeſtinely under the cover of, and in company with other boats or goods having a Duſtuck, ſuch boats or goods, ſo attempted to be paſſed clandeſtinely, ſhall be ſeized and confiſcated.

VIII The Gomaſtahs in every place ſhall carry on their trade freely and as merchants, and ſhall on no account uſe force in buying or ſelling. If any diſpute ariſes in the courſe of their buſineſs, they ſhall not attempt to redreſs themſelves, but ſhall make their complaint to the Fougedar, or other officer of the government, and have the matter tried before him. In like manner, if any merchant or inhabitant ſhall be aggrieved by an Engliſh Gomaſtah, he ſhall make his complaint to the Fougedar or other officer of the government, and the Gomaſtah being duly ſummoned, ſhall appear before him to anſwer to the charge, and have the matter determined.

IX. To deter the Fougedar and other officers of the government from being guilty of any partiality, they ſhall be enjoined to tranſmit to the Nabob copies of their proceedings upon all trials, where Engliſh Agents or Gomaſtahs are concerned, and likewiſe to give a copy to the Agent or Gomaſtah, who if he thinks himſelf aggrieved may ſend the ſame to his principal, and he may make his complaint to the Preſident, who, if the cauſe requires it, will apply to the Nabob for redreſs; and when any Fougedar, or other officer of the government, ſhall prove guilty of ſuch partiality, the Nabob ſhall puniſh him in the moſt exemplary manner.

We think it would be unreaſonable to deſire to carry

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carry on the inland trade upon any other footing than that of the merchants of the country, and that the attempting to carry it on free of customs, and with the Company's Dustuck, would bring upon us universal jealousy and ill-will, and in the end prejudice the Company's affairs as well as our own. In the course of our conferences upon this subject, the Nabob observed, that if the English Gomastahs were permitted to trade in all parts, and in all commodities custom-free, as many of them now pretend, they must of course draw all the trade into their own hands, and his customs would be of so little value to him, that it would be much more for his interest to lay trade entirely open, and collect no customs for any person whatever upon any kind of merchandize, which would draw a number of merchants into his country, and encrease his revenues, by encouraging the cultivation and manufacture of a larger quantity of goods for sale; at the same time, that (he added) it would effectually cut off the principal subject of the disputes which had disturbed the good understanding between us, an object that he had more than any other at heart. This scheme we discouraged all in our power, as it would immediately render the Dustuck useless, and prejudice our honourable master's business, by enhancing the number of purchasers; and it is an argument why we ought readily to consent to the regulation now proposed, not to risk hurting the Company's interest for our own private advantage.

The Nabob desires our orders may be repeated, that none of the Company's Servants, their Agents, Gomastahs, or other persons employed by them, shall be permitted to hold offices under the country government, nor to purchase, rent, or hold lands, gunge, or markets, nor to lend money to the Zemindars or Collectors, as all these

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are ſources of diſputes between the Company's people and the government's.

We have ſent to Mr. Helas the Nabob's orders for the free purchaſe of the timbers wanted for the new fort, and the Nabob has expreſſed to Sheer Aly, the Fougedar of that diſtrict, his higheſt diſpleaſure at the obſtructions he before laid in his way, and the ill treatment which the Engliſh Gomaſtahs in general complained of from him.

Incloſed, we ſend the Nabob's orders to Mahomed Aly the Collector of the Dacca diſtricts, enjoining him to releaſe all boats that may be ſtopt by him or any perſon under his juriſdiction; to demand for cuſtoms nothing more than has hitherto been paid upon the inland trade of thoſe parts, and to refund all that may have been extorted beyond that; likewiſe another order to the ſame perſon, requiring him to tranſmit a more circumſtantial account of the diſpute between the uncle and nephew about the Zemindary of Baboopoor, and how it happened that three or four of our Seapoys were killed there. But as both in this affair, and that of Tangepoor dependent on Purnea, where one of Mr. Gray's Gomaſtah's was killed, a ſevere example ſeems highly neceſſary; we have agreed with the Nabob to ſend a perſon on our part along with one of his to inquire upon the ſpot, and bring a full and impartial account of each of theſe events, and the Nabob has promiſed to puniſh his people with the utmoſt ſeverity, if they prove to be as guilty as they now appear. Mr. Haſtings will go to Tangepoor to finiſh that inquiry, and we deſire that you will direct Mr. Billers to produce the neceſſary proofs to the perſon who may be appointed by the Nabob to inquire concerning the other affair.

T, 3.—*Tranſlation*

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T,3.——*Tranſlation of a Letter from the* Nabob *to the Governor.*

AS there are many places within the Pergunnas, in the provinces of Bengal and Bahar, much oppreſſed by the Engliſh Company's Gomaſtahs and ſervants, I ſhall trouble you to write to the Chiefs of Coſſimbazar, Dacca, Luckypoor, Malda, Patna, &c. not to give Duſtucks, or permit any one to hoiſt Engliſh colours beſides what are granted for the Company's ſhip-merchandize; that on whatever goods of this country they purchaſe and ſell, they ſhall pay duties for the ſame as other merchants, and receive a Duſtuck from the Sircar, and may paſs and repaſs, only giving a copy of their Duſtuck at every gaut; that they ſhould uſe no force in the purchaſe and ſale of goods, nor take poſſeſſion of the houſes and golahs belonging to the ryots and merchants... The muſſelmen merchants pay a duty of 9 per cent. at the gauts and place of purchaſe, &c. you will alſo appoint the ſame duty..... Let not any one impede the dilolls and weavers of the Sircar, at the Aurungs of Dacca, Râdanuggur, Kirpây, Nuddia, Moorſhedabad, Malda, Caulygaum, &c. where the Sircar may freely purchaſe, nor injure and oppreſs the inhabitants of the Pergunnas, nor protect the ryots, merchants, renters, and ſervants of the Government, nor detriment the revenues.... As the Company's Gomaſtahs make ſalt at Sundeep, &c. I deſire you will write to them not to make any more there, but like other merchants to purchaſe it from the Molunghies at the market price.... You will direct the gentlemen, Gomaſtahs, Muttaſuddies, and Moonſhies, and other officers of the Engliſh Company, to relinquiſh their farms, taalucs, gunges, and

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golahs, and not take any in future; to afford no protection to any one; upon proof to receive back the money they paid for their purchaſes; not to borrow from, or lend to the Muttaſuddies, Aumils, Zemindars, or other dependents of the Government; not to coin any money at the Moorſhedabad, Dacca, or Patna mints, as it occaſions a loſs to the Sircar, but to coin their money at Calcutta. . . . In the Pergunnas of Cuddy-bâry, and Câloo-baboo-pâra, and my other Jagheer lands under the juriſdiction of Aſſam, the revenues formerly amounted to 40,000 rupees, ariſing from the trade of ſalt, large timbers, and ſeveral other articles; the Government's people uſed to carry on the commerce there, and no other merchants were permitted to traffick with the Mountaineers. Two years ago, Mr. Chevalier went there, and he has put an entire ſtop to the trade of the Sircar, and himſelf trafficks with the Mountaineers, from whence a loſs ariſes to my revenues; and he forcibly ſeizes the taalucdars and ryots of the aforeſaid Pergunnas to make them draw timbers, by which means they are brought to the laſt diſtreſs. . . . In the Pergunnas of Gopâlpoor, and Dukhun-bâr-poor, and other diſtricts where ſalt is made; the people of the Company's Factory work the ſalt-pans, and they take poſſeſſion of all the ſalt which the Molunghies of other Pergunnas have made, by which means I ſuffer a very great loſs. Moreover, they oblige the ryots to receive money from them for purchaſing rice, and by force and violence they take more than the market-price affords, and the ryots are running away on account of theſe oppreſſions. For many years it has been cuſtomary for the Cuſhmeer merchants to advance money at Sunderbun, and provide Molunghies to work the ſalt-pans there; they paid the rent for the ſalt-pans

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pans at the ſeveral Pergunnas, and the duties on the ſalt, which were paid at Barryſeul Chokey belonging to the Shahbunder, amounted to near 30,000 rupees; at preſent, the people of the Factory have diſpoſſeſſed the Cuſhmeer merchants, and have appropriated all the ſalt to themſelves. Pleaſe to write to the Gomaſtahs of the aforeſaid places to deſiſt from exerciſing any authority there.

T, 3. a.——*Tranſlation of the Governor's Anſwer to the above Letter* *.

I Have been honoured with the receipt of your Excellency's letter, and underſtand the ſeveral contents. Agreeably to your deſire, I will write to the Chiefs of the Factories, to grant a Company's Duſtuck upon the purchaſe and ſale of all ſhipping goods, and that they ſhould deal like other merchants in ſuch goods as are bought and ſold in different parts of the country for the inland trade. . . . That they muſt not give a Company's Duſtuck, but muſt pay a duty of 9 per cent. upon the purchaſe of the goods, in lieu of all demands at the Chokeys, &c. into the Bukſhbunder, or Shahbunder, and take a Duſtuck from thence, and not be guilty of any violence or extortion. I hope that you, on your part, will give orders to the Fougedars and other officers of the Sircar, that they are not to give any interruption to the purchaſe and ſale of ſhipping-goods, with which there will be a Company's Duſtuck, nor to make the leaſt demand upon them; and that they muſt by no means interrupt the purchaſe and ſale of the inland trade, but muſt grant a Duſtuck for

* The Preſident left Mongheer the 27th of December, to return to Calcutta, immediately after the delivery of this letter to the Nabob.

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the goods after having taken the ſtipulated duty upon the purchaſe price agreeably to your commands; and that the Darogas of the Chokeys muſt only take a copy of the Duſtuck, and make no demands.

I have already wrote to all the Chiefs of the Factories, not to oppreſs the ryots and inhabitants of the Pergunnas, nor protect your dependents, nor make any diſturbance in the affairs of the Sircar. I will now again write particularly to the Chiefs; and freſh orders ſhall likewiſe be ſent to the ſeveral Gomaſtahs, to deſiſt from ſuch proceedings; to look upon the officer of the Sircar, as the proper magiſtrate; and in caſe of any diſturbances or diſputes, to appear before him and there ſettle them. You will give orders to your Fougedars and officers, that they muſt behave to the Gomaſtahs with truth and uprightneſs, and act without partiality; if any one makes a complaint againſt a Gomaſtah, that they muſt ſend for the Gomaſtah, and decide the diſpute; and in caſe of a Gomaſtah's making any complaint, that they muſt take that likewiſe into conſideration, and decide it.

I have wrote to the Chiefs of Chittagong and Luckypoor, that they muſt not work the ſalt-pans themſelves, nor interrupt the merchants and renters of the ſalt-pans who pay the government's rents, but purchaſe from them whatever they want to purchaſe; I accordingly ſend you incloſed two letters for the ſaid Chiefs.

Orders ſhall be ſent to the Chiefs and Gomaſtahs of the Factories, not to rent nor purchaſe any lands, nor to lend to, nor borrow money from the Zemindars and officers of the Sircar, and that they muſt give up whatever Taalucs they may have heretofore purchaſed. You will pleaſe to give orders, that the purchaſe-money ſhould be returned;—

but

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but I have received complaints from ſeveral places, that the officers of the Sircar inſiſt upon the former collections, and beat, and bind, and impriſon the people. Such proceedings are contrary to juſtice; you will therefore give them orders to return the purchaſe-money, and by no means to demand the paſt accounts.

The Chiefs and Gomaſtahs of the Factories ſhall be ſtrictly enjoined not to obſtruct the dilolls and weavers of the Sircar.

If it is not agreeable to you, that the money and bullion of the Engliſh gentlemen and Gomaſtahs, ſhould be coined in the Patna and Dacca mints, and it occaſions a loſs to the Sircar, you will give orders to your Drogas there, not to receive from them any money or bullion for coining; yet the Shroffs, upon being acquainted with this, will demand as much batta as they pleaſe, by which means the Company's buſineſs will be ſtopt; I hope, therefore, that you will write to the Naibs of Moorſhedabad, Patna, and Dacca, that the money of the Engliſh Company and gentlemen muſt pay batta according to the rate of the Bazar, and that they muſt puniſh the Shroffs in caſe of their demanding more.

The Gomaſtahs at Gwalpara, ſhall be ſtrictly charged to carry on their commercial buſineſs as formerly, and not to trade themſelves with the Mountaineers, but to make all their purchaſes and ſales through the hands of the Droga of the Sircar. You will pleaſe to enjoin the Droga to deal with the Engliſh Gomaſtahs in the ſame manner as with other merchants.

The following is a copy of the Preſident's anſwer to the Patna Deputy's repreſentations, of which anſwer Mr. Ellis had a copy.

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U, 3.——*Tranſlation of the Governor's Letter to* Rajah Nobit Roy.

Dated 5 Jan. 1763.

I Have read your ſeveral papers of requeſts. Agreeably to what you write concerning the aboliſhing of Colonel-gunge, I have directed Mr. Ellis to aboliſh it; accordingly, from this day, the merchants have been forbidden to bring their goods to the ſaid Gunge; but as it is neceſſary to keep a ſmall quantity of grain, on the Company's account, that it may be uſed in a time of ſcarcity, I have therefore directed Mr. Ellis to build Golahs on ſuch places as you ſhall aſſign for that purpoſe, and to purchaſe from the merchants of Colonel-gunge 20,000 maunds of grain to be laid up there on the Company's account; after which, whatever quantity they may have remaining, they may ſell agreeably to their own pleaſure, or carry it to the government's Gunges, and lay it up there. If they deſire to ſerve the Company as heretofore, it's well; and if they are deſirous of ſettling in any of the Sircar's Gunges, they have liberty ſo to do. When you have fixed upon a place for erecting the Golahs, you will ſend a ſervant with a note to Mr. Ellis, and you will allow what time may be neceſſary for removing the grain from the old Golahs to the new ones, that no unreaſonable loſs may fall upon the merchants.

With regard to what your write about not holding any Taalucs, nor lending to, nor borrowing from the officers and Zemidars, orders have been given to this purport, and I underſtand that no body has done ſuch things; however, I have now repeated thoſe orders.

You

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You ſay that numbers of merchants carry away goods for ſale under the protection of the Factory, and that I ſhould enquire into this matter. ... It has of old been cuſtomary that a Duſtuck ſhould be granted with whatever cloth, &c. is purchaſed by the merchants from the Engliſh Company and gentlemen, and that they ſhould accordingly carry away the goods and ſell them wherever they pleaſe. This is no new cuſtom, and this is the only protection offered them.

You complain that the merchants carry away goods, the produce of this country, from the Factory into the provinces. . . . With regard to ſuch goods as are bought and ſold in the country, the Nabob and I have agreed, that a certain duty ſhall be paid for them at once, according to the purchaſe price; when this regulation ſhall every where take place, no duties will be demanded upon the road.

I underſtand what you write about ſhutting up the Burbanna wicket of the Fort, and concerning the intrenchment by the river ſide, and I have ſeen both the places in queſtion. The intrenchment by the river ſide is very proper; as to the ſhutting the wicket, though there does not appear to be any great neceſſity for it, and the going round about will be an inconvenience to the people of the Factory; nevertheleſs, as it is the Nabob's order, do it whenever you pleaſe, no body will obſtruct you.

Zein-ul-aubudeen, the Aumil of Bahar, writes, that a Gomaſtah of the Factory took an obligation from one Deynehund a merchant, that nobody ſhould buy Opium beſides the Engliſh Factory. I aſked the Aumil in your preſence, and in that of ſeveral merchants, whether he had a copy of the obligation or not; he anſwered, that Dynehund complained to him, that "Benymadoo an En-
"gliſh Gomaſtah had taken an obligation from
"him,

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" him, and had forbid him trading in Opium, " and that therefore, it could not be expected " he ſhould pay the uſual duties:" and that he ſhewed him a copy of the obligation, but did not leave it with him. Now, it is uncertain whether this ſtory be true, or whether the merchant was prompted by his own intereſt to impoſe upon the Aumil, that he might avoid paying the duties. It is therefore proper, you ſhould ſend for the merchant and enquire into the affair, in preſence of Mr. Ellis, whom I have directed to inflict a proper puniſhment upon the Gomaſtah, in caſe the complaint is proved; and in caſe it appears to be falſe, you on your part ſhould inflict a proper puniſhment upon the merchant.

With regard to the Sircar's ſalt, that is in the hands of Meer Mahomed Aſhruff, it appears from the account he ſhewed me, that he has in different places diſpoſed of 23,596 maunds, and that he has now remaining upon his hands 27,333 maunds: I enquired of him in your preſence what was the reaſon of his having diſpoſed of ſo ſmall a quantity only in ſuch a length of time; he replied, that " in many places there was ſalt be- " longing to Engliſh gentlemen, and it was not " in his power to ſtop the ſale of their merchan- " dize, in order to diſpoſe of the Sircar's; and " that notwithſtanding the obligation entered " into by the merchants of the city, the officers " of ſeveral of the neighbouring places did not " put a ſtop to the buſineſs of other merchants, " ſo that it was impoſſible he ſhould ſell, the " Government's ſalt at an advanced price, whilſt " they ſold their's at the former price." As the buſineſs of the merchants of the city has been ſtopt here for three or four months, by which they have ſuffered greatly, and as they will be entirely ruined if their buſineſs continues to be ſo ſtopt,

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ſtopt, I would therefore adviſe you to take back what ſalt of the Sircar's remains unſold, and to diſpoſe of it at the market price, for the Nabob will by no means approve of injuring the merchants. You ſhould examine Meer Aſhruff's account, whether he has ſold agreeably thereunto, or more than is therein ſpecified; in caſe he has ſold more, it is reaſonable that you ſhould take from him whatever money he has received for it; but if his account be juſt, he is not in fault; receive the money from him accordingly, and make no further demands; I ſhall acquaint the Nabob of all theſe particulars, and he will inform you of his pleaſure.

You deſire Mr. Ellis may be directed not to ſend any money or bullion to the mint to be coined. This affair is within the limits of your authority; give orders to the Droga of the mint, not to receive any money or bullion that may be brought by the ſervants of the Factory to be coined, and write to Mr. Ellis, that if he chuſes it, you will coin money for him on the ſame terms as for other merchants, or elſe that he may exchange it at the Bazar price.

I underſtand what you write concerning the revenues of Burrumpoor village, and Nuzzurana for the ſalt-petre; ſome thouſand rupees were at different times paid by the Company to Rajah Ramnarain's army, of which I ſaw the particulars in the Company's books; and I have directed Mr. Ellis to make out the account, and after having deducted Rajah Ramnarain's debt, to pay the ballance into the Sircar's treaſury.

It is proper, that you ſhould look upon me as one intereſted in your welfare, and let me have the pleaſure of hearing from you every now and then.

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W, 3.—*Copy of a Letter from the Council to the Governor and Mr.* Haſtings.

Dated 27 Dec. 1762.

WE have received your letter of the 15th inſtant; we have paid due regard to the ſubſtance thereof; but as the articles now drawn up, or that may be concluded on, muſt in all probability prove the ſtandard and limitation of our inland trade for all future years, we think it is a matter which ſhould be maturely conſidered, and determined on by a full Board. We have therefore ordered the letter to lay on the table until the Preſident's return to Calcutta, when we ſhall come to a final reſolution on the ſubject, and would on that account recommend his leaving Mr. Haſtings with the Nabob to ratify ſuch articles as may be then agreed on.

And as we think further, that the opinions of as many of the members of the Board ſhould be taken in this matter, as can be conveniently collected, we beg leave to adviſe the Preſident's talking with Mr. Ellis for that purpoſe.

We ſhall write to Luckypoor, agreeable to what you recommend, regarding the Zemindary of Bauboopoor, and alſo forward to Dacca the orders on Mahomed Aly. We muſt however remark, that we were in hopes from the manner the Preſident expreſſed himſelf in a former letter, that Mahomed Aly would have been diſmiſſed from his employ with diſgrace, and obliged to make reſtitution for the damages ſuſtained, by the delays he had occaſioned; and we muſt needs ſay, that we think, theſe are points which ought ſtill to be inſiſted on, as we cannot eſteem his being ordered to refund the extorted duties as any ſatisfaction, becauſe

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becauſe we cannot ſee any right or authority, that he (Mahomed Aly) had to exact theſe additional duties, or cauſe the interruptions he did, until a treaty of the nature now propoſed had been concluded.

X, 3.—*Extract of a Letter from the Governor to the Council.*

Dated 15 Jan. 1763.

WITH reſpect to Mahomed Aly, the Dacca Collector, I could not refuſe a propoſition ſo reaſonable as what the Nabob made, that is, that he ſhould have an opportunity of anſwering for himſelf. Incloſed, I ſend you copies of his addreſſes to the Nabob on the ſubject of the complaints againſt him. Mirza Aly Reza is appointed Ameen, to go and enquire upon the ſpot, and orders ſhould be ſent to the Chiefs at Dacca, Chittagong and Luckypoor, to produce what proofs they can of the facts complained of to the ſaid Ameen.

I can venture to aſſure you, the Nabob will not be backward in puniſhing Mahomed Aly, if he proves guilty. Toorutſing, the Aumuldar of Tangepoor, having been convicted of killing Mr. Gray's Gomaſtah, has received ſentence to be hanged at the place where the violence was committed; and Sheer Aly Cawn, for endeavouring to ſcreen him and his ill behaviour to our Gomaſtahs in general, will be diſmiſſed from the government of Purnea.

I obſerve what you mention concerning the inland trade to Mr. Haſtings and me jointly. The Company's Duſtuck never having been granted for thoſe articles of trade by any former Governors, neither ſhall I think myſelf empowered to grant them

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them without the orders of our honourable maſters; and therefore to prevent our being liable to have our goods ſtopt for duties at many different places, as is the caſe with the country merchants, I wiſhed to have thoſe duties made up in the moſt reaſonable manner into one ſum, to be paid at one place before the diſpatch of the goods. After getting what informations we could, I agreed with the Nabob, that they ſhould be rated at 9 per cent. upon the purchaſe price, which being paid before the diſpatch of the goods, and the Duſtuck of the country Government taken, they ſhould be liable to no further demands throughout the three provinces. You will obſerve, that this is leſs than what the Luckypoor gentlemen in their letter of the 6th of November laſt mention, they have always paid upon ſalt and tobacco, which are the principal objects of this trade. In my way down, I took an account from the agents of ſome Patna and Hougly merchants of what they had paid, and were liable to pay for the ſalt under their charge, by which you will perceive that the Sircary duties only, without reckoning the Duſtore taken at the ſeveral Chokeys, amount, by the loweſt of the ſeveral informations, to more than 25 rupees per 100 maunds. I have ſent a Copy of this account to the Nabob, and recommended to him to free the merchants in general from ſuch a variety of demands, by receiving from them in like manner a reaſonable rate of cuſtoms in one place only.

Y,3.——*Copy of a Letter from Mr.* Cartier *to the Council.*

Dated 9 Jan. 1763.

BEING called upon by the council of this Factory for an explanation of a letter wrote to Mahomed

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Mahomed Aly, Collector of the revenues of Dacca. I think proper, with the consent of the gentlemen here, to address myself to the Board on this occasion; and at the same time do declare the pleasure it affords me, to vindicate any part of my conduct that may appear dark or mysterious before so just a tribunal.

The letter addressed to Mahomed Aly was wrote and sent to him the 9th of October, a copy of which, and his answer, I forwarded to Mr. Van Sittart. The same was received by that gentleman during his abode at the French gardens.

When an entire interruption was put to all commerce, our servants plundered and used ill, the flag grossly insulted even in the city, and almost under our eyes, when our intercourse to Calcutta by letters was one time stopt, in what shape was I to act but in the manner I did? Mahomed Aly was pointed out by the whole country, as the principal encourager of these grievances and insults. In my applying to him for redress by the Dewân and Vackeel of the Factory, he constantly denied having the least hand in them. I therefore thought it best in such a situation of affairs, to apply myself to him by letter, and to demand a positive declaration as to the cause of these disturbances. The answer was such as might be expected from an intriguing man, in every respect evasive and unsatisfactory.

You think, gentlemen, the stile of my letter was rather improper, and tending to promote those evils which you have taken so much pains to remedy, namely, a jealousy and distrust. I must beg leave, gentlemen, to dissent from you in this opinion, and maintain, that the extravagant and vexatious behaviour of the government was the cause of those evils, and raised, I may venture to say, both jealousy and distrust in every breast. In such a conjuncture, I think, an Englishman cannot

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speak too bold. I only wrote what I imagined would have had a proper effect on the mind of a man, who I supposed acted from his own judgment, and without a legal order. The system of the present government must be entirely changed within these last twelve months, if the ears of the officers in it are too delicate to bear with a warm remonstrance. I can conceive my letter to Mahomed Aly to be nothing more, and considering the importance of the affair, not too warm. As Chief of the Factory, I esteemed it my particular duty to support those privileges our nation are invested with; and had I tamely submitted to such a gross invasion of them, without any endeavour on my side to procure redress, I think I should be unworthy of the post I hold, and deservedly despised by the generality of the world.

I hope, gentlemen, the above will be sufficient to ascertain to you, the just motives that induced me to write the said letter, and satisfy you (considering the occasion) the stile of it was not altogether improper. The original letter I now inclose you from which the Persian translation was made, tho' the purport of it is little different from the copy sent up in your general letter.

Z, 3.——*Copy of a Letter from Messr.* Johnstone *and* Hay *to the Council.*

Dated 14 Jan. 1763.

WE have received the copy of a letter wrote by the President to the Board, complaining of Mr. Bolts's conduct in writing a letter in the name of Johnstone, Hay, and Bolts, to the Purnea Phousdar, representing the grievances and oppressions that our Gomastahs met with in transacting our business in that country, and asserting the privileges of the Phirmaund; and at the same time

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time recommending to you, to inflict a censure or punishment on Mr. Bolts for the same. We therefore think it necessary to our duty to inform you, that Mr. Van Sittart, when he cast the whole of that transaction on Mr. Bolts, did it not with any good reason, as we were both acquainted with the contents of the letter, and of its being sent; and we cannot help thinking, from the terms of his letter, that it was wrote with no other design, than to shew how blameable we were in his eyes, and how we ought to be treated; but we hope you, gentlemen, will judge otherwise. We are so far from thinking with the President, that it is criminal to assert the privilege of the Phirmaund, that we think every one that does not, little deserves the benefit of it, and that it's being asserted in private letters can never weaken the Company's government, or prove prejudicial to their true interests. The justice of our Gomastah's complaints to which we refer, and which gave occasion to our letter to Sheer Aly Cawn, will appear by his answer, in which he acknowledges, that by the Nabob's orders our trade shall be entirely confined to that of ready money purchases, contrary to the established customs throughout the country; and which must of consequence put a stop to all trade, or fetter it in a manner unknown before in the worst of times in Bengal.

Our letter, as translated by Mr. Gulston, which we now lay before the Board, we hope will prove unexceptionable; for when it is said, in case we did not find an end was put to the oppressions complained of, that we would make application to the Nabob for redress for ourselves and others; it is not to be imagined, that we should have procured this application to the Nabob otherwise than from your Board; and this was our intention. But Mr. Van Sittart is of a different opinion, and takes great exception at its being said to

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be designed to be done in the English name, and redress obtained for others. Had he thought proper to have mentioned it to either of the partners residing in Calcutta, he might have been satisfied there was no bad design in using the word others, but that it was introduced entirely by mistake. And we have reason to think Mr. Van Sittart was not unacquainted with the contents of that letter before he left Calcutta, as our Gomastahs wrote us after the receipt of the letter, the Phouzdar would not send us his answer till it was approved of by the President, for which purpose it was sent by the Phouzdar with one of his own to Calcutta, and we did not receive the answer till some days after Mr. Van Sittart's departure from Calcutta.

The unwillingness the President had to believe complaints of this nature, and more particularly that they were owing to the Nabob's orders, induced us to address Sheer Aly Cawn in the manner we did, to see whether he would answer us as he had done our Gomastah, and on this to have a foundation for applying to your honourable Board for redress. You will please to remark, that Sheer Aly Cawn represents dadney advanced for goods, as money let out at interest; which latter business, our Gomastah never carried on, and we can't conceive that the misbehaviour of a few Gomastahs in that or any other way, when proved, joined to the many groundless complaints of the government, should be esteemed sufficient cause for the Nabob to usurp, or we to give up the privileges of the English Company in this country, when at the same time so many well grounded causes of complaints have been given by the servants of the Nabob to those, who, by the Company's indulgence, have the privilege of Dustucks, and of course exemption from all duties, and their protection. That these privileges for several months have been greatly infringed

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fringed in ſome parts, and entirely taken away in others by the country government, is what we, as well as moſt Engliſh traders except the Preſident, have ſeverely felt in their private fortunes.

We received a letter from our agent, Mr. Robinſon, at Gualpara, informing us, of the difficulties he laboured under from the obſtacles thrown in the way of our trade, and the danger with which he was threatened by the Phouſdar of Rungamatty, which he repreſented as greatly fomented and increaſed by the arrival and practices of one Gongaram Metre, who was come there in Auguſt, and aſſumed to himſelf on the ſtrength of his Perwanah from the Governor, the office of inquiſitor and ſupervifor of the agents, of the Engliſh, &c. in thoſe parts. The Perwanah, extracts of Mr. Robinſon's letter, Gongaram Metre's letter to Mr. Tiexeira, and the letter from the Rungamatty Fouzdar to Mr. Robinſon, are ſubmitted to your conſideration. Some of theſe were forwarded to the Governor, requeſting the neceſſary redreſs; in anſwer we have received through him a Perwanah from the Nabob to the Fouzdar of Rungamatty, as by ſubjoined tranſlation, directing him not to obſtruct our trade, or collect duties on goods provided for exportation, or that come from Calcutta with a Duſtuck, but to levy the uſual duties on other goods; and to ſend to himſelf and to the Preſident, an account of the rates according to which they pay. This we humbly conceive is contrary to the articles of our treaty with the Nabob, and reduces us again to thoſe privileges we enjoyed before the time of Meer Jaffier Cawn, and which we imagine was not the ſentiments of the majority of the Board at the time the Preſident left it. By this Perwanah, however, we have not got the leaſt ſatisfaction for the inſults and loſſes we have ſuſtained by obſtructing our trade, both inland and Calcutta, but

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on the contrary, it is left to the Phouzdar's discretion, who has been guilty of the violences and losses we complained of, to fix the rates of the duties on the different articles of inland trade, on which, to the best of our knowledge, the Company's servants that have traded there since the treaty with Jaffier Aly Cawn never yet paid any, and of course there could be no custom to follow: —which scheme, should it take place, would reduce us on a foot (if not below the traders of the country) as is the wish of the Governor's agents in that part, probably in the imagination that this may be a means of throwing the whole trade into their hands by the extraordinary interest Mr. Van Sittart has with the Nabob.

Whatever opinion the President may entertain of Mr. Cartier, or Mr. Chevalier, they have had the happiness hitherto to be esteemed by every body that knows them. The gentleman we sent up, Mr. Robinson, had the permission and approbation of the Board; we think therefore, if such grievances as were alledged against English agents and Gomastahs really existed in these parts, the subjecting them to the scrutiny and supervisal of black dependants of whatever demonination, without the knowledge of the Board, was an indignity offered to it—to us, and to every gentleman concerned; and however the propagating such notions in this country may serve to strengthen the hands of government, we humbly conceive, it can give but a very odd opinion of the other members to whom it is jointly intrusted.

In the course of the business we have carried on, we have met with the greatest impediments in almost all parts, but in particular in Purnea, Rungpoor, districts of Gualparah, and Rungamatty, from the different Phouzdars, Zemindars, Mr. Moore, Gongaram Metre, &c. the accounts of which, as we have received them from our agents,

we

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we now lay before you; and hope you will procure for us that satisfaction which we have hitherto been unable to obtain.

A, 4.——*Copy of a Letter from the Chief and Council at* Dacca *to the Council.*

WE did ourselves the honour to write you yesterday, and have since been surprized by the receipt of two papers (which come inclosed for your perusal) from the Nabob, and from Mahomed Aly of this place, who desired to be informed what degree of regard we intended to pay the orders they contained; to which we replied, that we did not dare to acquiesce with the terms of those papers, as the President and Council of Calcutta, on whom alone it rested to give sanction to such commands, had not thought proper to transmit us any such instructions. We know not in what light you will look on these directions to the Naib of this place, but hope you will approve the reply we made, and will pardon us the liberty of addressing a few lines on this subject. The immediate circulation of these articles throughout the country will be attended with very bad consequences to the Company's investments, and must intirely ruin most of us at this place, who on the faith of treaties or public indulgences have large concerns abroad, which never can be collected in, if those privileges without any previous notice be snatched from us. The protection of our Gomastahs and servants from the oppression and jurisdiction of the Zemindars and their Cutcherries has ever been found to be a liberty highly essential, both to the honour and interest of our nation; and we apprehend the utility of it, for carrying on every kind of business, but especially the provision of cloth, is so well known to you gentlemen, that it is needless for us to add more, as you will at once

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perceive the numberleſs vexations and interruptions we ſhall meet with, if the Zemindars have authority on every ſlight diſpute, to ſummon and confine our Gomaſtahs, wherever they think proper. The injunctions with reſpect to Duſtucks affect every article of commerce, except ſuch as are imported on ſhipping. Mr. Cartier being enjoined not to give one for any article, that is the produce of Bengal; and to pay a duty of nine per cent. to the Nabob, on every merchandize not brought in or ſent by ſea. This ſurely cannot be meant, but the words ſeem too equivocal not to make us wiſh to have your ſenſe of them on ſo important a point. A duty once fixed could ſcarce be a burden, but if added to this, we are ſubjected to vexatious applications to the Nabob's officers for Duſtucks, it will be a grievance we ſhall indeed feel. The dignity and benefit of our Duſtucks are the chief badges of honour, or at leaſt intereſt, we enjoy from our Phirmaund, and has been held in ſuch eſteem, as to ſee ureour effects from thoſe depredations, which the natives ſuffer in paſſing their goods through the country; and if theſe new duties on all the products of the country are thought juſt, may not the Nabob be properly ſecured of them by the Shawbunder's receipts for the cuſtoms, being always affixed to the back of every Duſtuck, previous to its being ſigned. This will ſurely aſcertain, in the moſt ample manner, the duties to the Nabob, and free us from the principal grievance we can feel by their increaſe. The prohibition with reſpect to Toffals, * is a reſtraint not even put upon the Moguls and natives. The liberty of erecting new ones ſo far from being injurious to the Nabob, abſolutely enhances his cuſtoms, by clearing lands that would otherwiſe have been uninhabited; and the order to purchaſe every thing for ready money

* Salt-pans,

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ney amounts nearly to an exclusion from all such branches of trade, as the vender will then impose on us whatever prices they judge proper.

With respect to Assam, we must beg leave to observe, that the Nabob, or his Fougedar of Rungamatty, can have no more right to regulate the terms of our commerce with the natives of that country than with those of China. All the power he exerts over our Gomastahs is arbitrary and oppressive, and neither justice or ancient customs can warrant such abuses, or regulate his officers in the collecting of taxes. The whole direction is now referred to his Droga of Rungamatty. No duties have ever yet been paid on Lacks, Muggadooties, and other goods brought from Assam: those goods may surely be esteemed imports, when they are brought into Bengal, and may be intitled to our Dustucks.

All our privileges, all our fortunes, and future prospects, depend upon the result of your deliberation on these points; and we hope, let what will be your sentiments, you will be pleased to suspend the execution of them till our present concerns are collected in, with our ancient indulgences. No treaty of commerce in any country has been carried into execution, or fresh duties levied, without a previous declaration, for as long a term as was adequate to the settlement of those concerns that were to be influenced by such new regulations; and we flatter ourselves, that we shall not become objects of unexampled severity on this occasion. The trade of the servants has ever been thought worthy of our protection, and we hope, if particular branches are now to be given up, we shall still be indulged with the influence of your authority, and privilege of our Dustuck, till we can finish our present engagements. If you refuse us this request, gentlemen, you undo us at once, as the publication of those orders from Mongheer, with the

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the ſtamp of your authority, will ſo aſſiſt our national credit and influence in the country, as muſt for ever diſable us from collecting in the large ſums we have outſtanding.

If we have obtruded on the Board more than is deemed fit, or preſumed in any part of this, to adviſe where obedience was due, we crave your pardon, and ſhall be ready to pay the utmoſt reſpect to any orders tranſmitted by your Board.

B, 4—*Tranſlation of the Governor's Letter to the* Nabob.

YOUR gracious Perwanah is arrived, and has greatly honoured me. I am informed of all the particulars of your high commands.

It ſhall be written to the chiefs of our Factories, that they are to give a Daſtac for the buying and ſelling of ſhip merchandize, and merchandize that they buy and ſell in every diſtrict, for traffic in this country; they are to do according to cuſtom of other traders and merchants, and not to give the Company's Daſtac. They are to take a Daſtac from Buckſhbander or Shahbender, paying in upon the coſt of the merchandize nine per cent. including wharfs; and other receipts of cuſtom, nor ſhall they uſe any manner of force or violence, extortion or unfair dealing.

It is hoped, that your Excellency's Perwanah will be iſſued out to the Foujdars, and other officers of the government; that the Company's Daſtac is to go along with the purchaſe and ſale of ſhip merchandize, and they are by no means to ſtop it or demand the ſmalleſt cuſtom, nor ſhall they hinder the purchaſe and ſale of commodities for country trade; but they are to give Daſtacs, receiving the duties on coſt of the merchandize, agreeable to your Excellency's high command. And the Darugahs at the Chokey's are only to take copies of the Daſtac without demanding any thing. Here-

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Heretofore it was written to all the chiefs of our Factories, to forbid them injuring the country people and inhabitants of the Pergannahs, and protecting the dependents and servants of the Sircar, and damaging the affairs of the Sircar. Now repeated directions shall be sent, that they are to refrain from such proceedings; and further, considering the officer of the government as magistrate where they are, in case of any trouble or disputes happening, they are to appear before that magistrate, and have them settled.

Let your Excellency's instructions be sent to the Foujdars and officers, that they are to determine disputes of our Factors, with justice and truth, without partiality. And if any one complains against a Factor, to send for him, and settle the affair face to face; and if a Factor has a complaint against any one, to consider it well, and so determine it.

It has been written to the chiefs of Islamabad and Luckypoor, that they shall not make salt works, nor hinder the merchants and farmers of the salt works, that pay revenues to the government, but buy what they want of them at a reasonable rate: the two letters to the chiefs aforesaid being inclosed with this address.

An order will be sent to the chiefs and servants of all our Factories that they are not to farm or buy lands; and whatever they may have bought heretofore, to resign it.

Let your Excellency's order be passed, that the price of the purchase be likewise returned.

But from several places there is come complaints, that the officers of the Sircar importune for former collections, and beat, bind, and confine the people; which doings are far from being just.

Let your Excellency's order be passed, that they return

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return back the price of the purchase, and never demand old accounts.

The chiefs and servants of the Factories will be directed, that they are not to hinder the brokers and weavers of the government.

And, if your Excellency is not pleased that the money and bullion of English gentlemen and their Factors should be made into Siccas in the mints of Azimabad, and Johangirnagar, and by it there will be a loss to the Sircar; let the Darugahs of those places be ordered, not to receive the money and bullion of the English to be made into Siccas. But upon hearing this, the money-changers will demand as exchange just what they want, and the Company's business will be impeded by this means.

It is hoped, that a Perwanah will be issued out to the Naibs of Moorshedabad, Johangirnagar, and Azimabad, that the exchange on money of the English Company, and gentlemen, shall be taken according to the market currency; and in case of exaction, to bring the money-changers to punishment.

Directions will be sent to the Factor (Gomastah) at Gwallparah, that he is to transact business of traffic as was custom heretofore, and he is not to trade with the people of the mountains; whatever he has to buy or sell in that place, he is to do by means of the officer of the government. Let your Excellency's order be sent to the Darugah, that he is to deal with the English Factors, as with other merchants.

C, 4.—*Translation of the* Nabob's Perwanah *to* Mahomed Aly Beg.

May the Noble our well-beloved Mahomed Aly Beg *remain in Health.*

IN the month Jemmâdy-ath-thâny, the 4th year of his Majesty's reign, agreeing with the 1176th

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1176th of the Hegira, Mr. Vah Sittart came to visit me at Mongheer; seeing that you wrote an excuse for not collecting the balances in the country, because of the disturbances of the English Factors; therefore all country disputes, and the traffic of the English Factors were settled, and the Governor aforesaid has accordingly given me written security under his own hand. As a copy thereof under seal of the magistrate is sent inclosed, you are to act in conformance to it, not differing in a single point, either more or less from it. And further, you are to shew the said copy to the English gentlemen and their Factors, and tell them that they are to transact all business and affairs of trade according to the written security, and in no wise are to use violence or extortion—if they act contrary thereto, I will not suffer such behaviour in the country, but will turn them out. . . And you our well-beloved are to act agreeable to this written security. If any one of the Factors shall bring to pass any thing contrary to this written security, and cause a disturbance, you shall remove him, and send me a review of the case taken exactly without the least difference or disagreement. It is with much and earnest importunity that I procured a written security to this purpose. . . . And having sent copies thereof to all my officers, and to you of noble rank, if you do not cause business to go on agreeable to it in the districts subject to you, I shall be very much offended with you, nor will I in future pay any regard to your complaints, and take care to act agreeable to this single writing, regarding it of as much force as writing a thousand times.

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D,4.——*Extract of Conſultation of the 17th of* January 1763. (*Preſent Meſ.* Amyatt, Hay, *and* Watts.)

(The Dacca Letter with the Tranſlation having been read.)

AS it appears from the conſultation of the 22d of March, that it was then reſolved to call for the opinion of the field officers in a caſe which the Board eſteem ſimilar to this; and as they think that the iſſue of the preſent matter muſt highly concern the national honour, and the Company's buſineſs.

Agreed, we ſend for Major Carnac to the Board to take his ſeat, and aſſiſt in our deliberation on the ſubject of theſe letters.

The major being come to the council-room, takes his ſeat at the Board.

Read again the Dacca letter, dated the 10th inſtant, with the tranſlates entered above of the two Perſian papers which were incloſed.

The Board having maturely conſidered the ſame, are unanimouſly of opinion, that in the letter from the Preſident to Coſſim Aly Cawn, he aſſumed a right to which he was no ways authorized; that the regulations propoſed by him are diſhonourable to us as Engliſhmen, and tend to the ruin of all publick and private trade; that the Preſident, iſſuing out regulations independently of the Council, is an abſolute breach of their privileges; and that therefore directions ſhould be ſent to Dacca, to ſuſpend paying any regard to theſe regulations and orders which the Nabob has ſent to their Factory. And as the Nabob has declared, in his letter to the Naib of Dacca, that he will turn out thoſe Engliſhmen or their Gomaſtahs, who will not comply with theſe deſtructive regulations. It appears to the Board of the utmoſt importance, and they are therefore further of opinion, that the abſent

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absent members should be immediately called to Calcutta (excepting the Chiefs of Patna and Chittagong, whose distance from the Presidency may render their coming inconvenient and prejudicial to the Company's affairs) that the whole may be consulted on a matter of such high consequence, and a plan be established for the security of our commerce, and for the proper conducting of the country correspondence.

Agreed, that we write accordingly in the terms of the above minute to Dacca, Cossimbazar, and Luckypoor, directing the Chiefs to repair immediately to Calcutta. . . . But as the distance from Burdwan is very small, and Mr. Johnstone's presence must be absolutely necessary there at this season of the heavy collections.

Agreed, that our letter to him be only to hold himself in readiness to repair to Calcutta on receipt of our further orders.

The major withdraws.

Mess. Johnstone and Hay send in a letter regarding the Persian letter which they wrote to Sheer Aly Cawn the Fougedar of Purnea—also copies and extracts of sundry letters and papers relative thereto.

The same being now read, the Board are of opinion, that they sufficiently account for, and vindicate those gentlemen in that transaction.

As the President was not even now without hopes, that it might be in his power to prevent the execution of the designs, which he saw were laid for breaking with the Nabob, though he had no other arms than the rectitude of his intentions, and the propriety of the measures which he had taken, to oppose to prejudices and violence; he resolved to answer with temper and coolness all the objections made, and to shew the illegality of the proceedings of certain violent tempers, that if he could not bring them to reason, he might

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yet obviate any pretence, which they might form to bring on the intended rupture. Accordingly, at the next conſultation he entered his anſwer and obſervations, as follows:

D,4.a.——*Copy of the Governor's Minute of the 1ſt of* February 1763.

I Have read, with great ſurprize, the minute of your conſultation of the 17th ultimo, upon Meſſ. Johnſtone and Hay's letter of the 14th, and upon the Dacca letter of the 10th, accompanied with my anſwer to the Nabob, upon the ſubject of the propoſed regulations for the private inland trade. I will endeavour to point out the wrong you have done me, and the injuſtice, as well as the indecency, of the reflections with which Meſſ. Johnſtone's and Hay's ſaid letter is filled, and which I wonder ſhould eſcape your cenſure, much more that they ſhould gain your approbation.

The honourable the Court of Directors, as well as their ſervants here, have always underſtood a diſtinction between the trade in articles *imported*, and to be *exported* by *ſhipping and the private inland* trade; that is, the trade from place to place in the country, in commodities produced and conſumed in the country, of which ſalt, betel-nut, and tobacco, are the chief articles. For the *former* trade, the *Company's Duſtuck* has always been granted; but the *latter* has been carried on with the *Duſtuck of the country government*, and their duties paid; but thoſe duties being different at different places, and even varied at the ſame place, according to the diſpoſition and authority of the Nabob's Collector, and the degree of force with which the Engliſh Gomaſtah could back his refuſal, a fixed regulation was thought neceſſary to prevent the numberleſs diſputes, occaſioned by this commerce in different parts of the province. Our honourable maſters have expreſsly ordered in

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in more than one of their letters, that the trade in ſalt, and betel-nut, ſhall not be carried on to the prejudice of the revenues of the country government; and yourſelves, gentlemen, in your letter of the 15th of November, tranſmitted me a liſt of the Shawbunder duties uſually paid by the gentlemen at Luckypoor upon ſalt and tobacco, in order to aſſiſt me "in *finally ſettling theſe matters with the Nabob upon a ſolid plan.*" Can that plan be ſolid where nothing is fixed, and where the Engliſh Gomaſtahs ſhall be under no controul, but regarding themſelves far above the magiſtrates of the country where they reſide, take upon themſelves to decide not only their own diſputes with the merchants and inhabitants, but thoſe alſo of one merchant or inhabitant with another; or is it poſſible the government can collect their due revenues in ſuch circumſtances?

The plan for carrying on the private inland trade, contained in my letter to the Nabob, is the ſame in ſubſtance as the articles which, in my joint letter with Mr. Haſtings of the 15th of December, we mention to have propoſed to the Nabob. It is ſuch a plan, as ſeemed to us to be moſt conformable to the Company's intentions in reſpect to that trade, moſt conſiſtent with the rights and true intereſts of their ſervants here, and with common reaſon and equity. And I call on you, gentlemen, in the firſt place, to prove that I have *aſſumed a right to which I was no ways authorized*, that the regulations propoſed, are *diſhonourable to you as Engliſhmen*, or tend to the *ruin of all publick or private trade*; which are the terms in which you have been pleaſed to expreſs your opinion: and in the ſecond place, to form a plan yourſelves which ſhall be more conformable to the good purpoſe before-mentioned, and, without regard to which, I am perſuaded our honourable maſters will not give the

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ſanction of their approbation to this new trade; form ſuch a plan, gentlemen, and I will ſubſcribe to it with pleaſure, and engage the Nabob ſhall do ſo too.

For my own part I think, that the honour and dignity of our nation would be better conſulted by a ſcrupulous and careful reſtraint of our Duſtuck, than by extending it beyond its uſual bounds, and by putting our Gomaſtahs under ſome checks, than by ſuffering them to exerciſe an authority in the country, every one according to the means put into his hands, and thereby bringing an odium upon the name of the Engliſh, by repeated violences done to the inhabitants.

The Dacca gentlemen, in their letter of the 10th, repreſent, that they ſhall ſuffer greatly if ſuch regulations take place. It is not as to the duty they complain, but the being obliged to apply to the Nabob's officers for Duſtucks, and having their Gomaſtahs or ſervants ſubjected to the juriſdiction of the Zemindars or other Cutcherries. The gentlemen at Calcutta have never found any difficulty in getting the Hougly Duſtuck for our ſalt to go up the country, nor have we ever thought it either inconvenient or diſhonourable, to apply for it to the officers of the government. This is the only article we deal in here, that falls under the diſtinction of the inland trade. The Dacca gentlemen either do not or will not underſtand that diſtinction. They ſay, "The Chief is enjoined (by the governor's letter to the Nabob) not to give a Duſtuck for "any article that is the produce of Bengal, and "to pay a duty of 9 per cent. to the Nabob on "every merchandize not brought in or ſent by "ſea." The diſtinction mentioned in my letter to the Nabob is, that *all goods imported, or for exportation by ſhipping*, ſhall go as uſual with the Company's Duſtuck, and be ſubject to no kind of

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of demands; and all *goods the produce of this country for inland trade*, ſhall pay duties to the country government and go with their Duſtuck. Now the principal *articles of this inland trade* are, as I have mentioned in all my letters to the Board, *ſalt, betel-nut, and tobacco, produced and bought in one part* of this country, and *ſent to other parts* of the ſame country, for *ſale* and *conſumption*. . . *Articles* which before the troubles *we were forbid to trade* in, but in which our influence ſince has enabled us to deal, although with many objections from the country government, and frequent complaints from the country merchants who uſed to live by that trade; however, *it has never been regarded as a part of our Firmaund* privilege, and we have been *contented to carry it on with the Duſtucks of the country government*, and paying their duties. The *preſent regulation is* intended only to give us *a confirmed right* to benefits heretofore always diſputed, and upon terms which ſeem to me very reaſonable.

Now as to the Gomaſtahs, it is propoſed in my letter to the Nabob, that orders ſhall be given to forbid them injuring the country people and inhabitants, or protecting the dependents and ſervants of the Sircar; that in caſe of their having a diſpute with, or complaint againſt any merchant or inhabitant of the country, they ſhall lay ſuch diſpute or complaint before the officer of the government, to be determined in the proper courſe of the juriſdiction of the country. . . . . And in like manner, if any one ſhould have a diſpute with, or complaint againſt the Gomaſtah, the Gomaſtah ſhall appear before the officer of the government to have it ſettled. In both caſes, if the Gomaſtah thinks himſelf aggrieved by the deciſion, he may apppeal to his employer, and he to the governor at Calcutta. Nothing here is meant to affect, nor can affect our rights over the

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weavers who receive advances for the Company's cloths; and who having nothing to do with rents, or employments under the country government, are not underſtood to be their dependents or ſervants, and therefore may and ought to be protected againſt any unjuſt demands of the government's officers, at the diſcretion of the Chief of the Factory, to which they belong. But it is not to theſe Gomaſtahs ſo many acts of oppreſſion are charged, their buſineſs is plain and ſimple; they have only to make the uſual advances to the weavers, and ſee that they perform their contracts; and being immediately under the eye of one or other of the Factories, they cannot be guilty of great extravagancies. The complaints come from the diſtant corners of the province, as Rungpoor, Purnea, Dinagepoor, Rungamatty, Gualparah, Sillet, Backergunge, &c. where, if thoſe complaints are true, the Engliſh Gomaſtahs being under no controul of their maſters, deſpiſe and ill treat the officers of the government, ſet themſelves up for judges and magiſtrates, hear diſputes between the inhabitants and extort fines, force the merchants to buy their goods at more than the market price, and to ſell what they require as much below it. The complaints I have received of this ſort are innumerable. I have done my utmoſt to find out the truth, and get redreſs, and put an end to them by forwarding copies to the Chief of the Factory, neareſt the place where the cauſe of complaint has ariſen, and deſiring him to enquire into it; but for the moſt part, I have had no other ſatisfaction, than the Gomaſtah's flat denial of the fact. The places being very diſtant, a proper examination of witneſſes is almoſt impoſſible, either before this Board, or any of the ſubordinates. How then are ſuch diſputes to be ſettled, or the truth diſcovered? I am far from ſaying, that the method I have propoſed is free from objection, becauſe I am very

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very ſenſible many of the officers of the government will not exerciſe their authority impartially, and many will gladly take every opportunity of obſtructing our Gomaſtahs, and particularly in this new commerce; but I cannot think of a better plan, and it is certainly more agreeable to reaſon, and the practice of all nations that the juriſdiction ſhould be in the hands of the proper officers of the government than our agents and Gomaſtahs, who are permitted to reſide there only as trading Factors, and where neither the laws of our country, nor the powers intruſted to us by the Company, give us any judicial authority.

I wiſh, gentlemen, you may form a better plan, ſince you do not approve of mine; but if it ſhould appear, that this trade cannot be carried on without inveſting our Gomaſtahs with an armed force, and authority to exerciſe that force over the inhabitants at their diſcretion, I think it ſhould be forbid, and we content ourſelves with carrying our trade as far as the Company carry their's; and ſo far we ſhall be ſure of the protection of their force, under the direction of one or other of the Factories, who will be anſwerable to the Board for the uſe they make of them, which the Gomaſtahs are not, and therefore ſuch an authority ſhould not be truſted in their hands.

Meſſrs. Johnſtone and Hay complain, that I ſent a perſon to enquire into the truth of the complaints againſt the Engliſh Gomaſtahs in the country, and they dignified a poor Banyan with the title of Inquiſitor. My letter to thoſe gentlemen, from Mongheer, will ſhew the only authority with which that perſon was inveſted; and as they have not laid before you a copy of that letter, I have ſubjoined it hereunto, under N° 1, as it is at leaſt as material as ſome of thoſe pieces they refer to. As ſoon as this inquiſitor returns, his report ſhall be laid before you; and as every ſtep I can take for

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for the redreſs of the inhabitants of the country is complained of as an incroachment upon the privileges of the Engliſh, and alſo proves ineffectual, I ſhall for the future lay all ſuch petitions from the inhabitants before the Board, hoping that, by your reſolutions, ſome effectual method will be provided for reſtraining the exceſſes of the Gomaſtahs. The moſt material of thoſe that have lately been preſented to me are hereunto annexed, from N° 2, to N°, 11; and I think the putting a ſtop to any abuſes that may be practiſed under the authority of the Engliſh flag is an attention ſo worthy of this Government, that one or more members of the Board, or ſome of the ſenior ſervants, ſhould be ſent to inform themſelves upon the ſpot, how far the complaints are true, and make the report to the Board.

Meſſrs. Johnſtone and Hay aſſert, that the Nabob's ordering the Rungamatty Fougedars to receive the uſual duties on goods for inland trade, is contrary to the articles of our treaty with the Nabob, and reduces us again to thoſe privileges we enjoyed before the time of Meer Jaffier. I have referred more than once to the treaty with the Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, and do not find that it grants us any new privileges of trade; and colonel Clive, who certainly underſtood that treaty as well as any one, never would grant a Duſtuck for ſalt, or any other article of trade, which had not uſually been granted by former Governors.

Meſſrs. Johnſtone and Hay inſinuate, throughout their letter in terms not to be miſunderſtood, that my reaſon for wiſhing to reſtrain other gentlemen's Gomaſtahs, is, that my own may have the more power, and procure for me the greater profit. Although I am ſatisfied that ſuch inſinuations would obtain but little credit, yet it may not be improper to produce ſome inſtances, that I ſuffer equally with others when any obſtructions do happen in our

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our trade, and that I am the firſt to practice upon my own concerns, the reſtraint which I think ſhould be laid upon our Gomaſtahs in general. For the firſt, I appeal to Mr. Amyatt, whether a number of boats of ſalt belonging to me, were not ſtopt at Cutwa, by the collector of that Gaut at the ſame time with others, and detained as long; and for the laſt I refer you to my orders of the 17th of December and 10th of January, to Mr. Moore, my agent at Rungpoor, and Mr. Baillie at Rungamatty, of which copies are hereunto annexed, N°. 12, and 13.

As you have been pleaſed to give it as your opinion, that Meſſrs. Johnſtone, Hay, and Bolts, did properly in writing a letter to Sheer Aly, the Fougedar of Poornea, in their own name, inſtead of applying to the Preſident, of courſe every other merchant will take the ſame authority. I am by no means ſorry to be relieved from the trouble of ſuch applications, yet I think it my duty, to give it as my opinion, that this entire levelling and equality will not be for the good of the Company's affairs, nor for the benefit of the ſociety, and therefore to declare my diſapprobation.

One reaſon Meſſrs. Johnſtone and Hay give for writing this letter, deſerves to be taken notice of, *An unwillingneſs in the Preſident to believe complaints of this nature.* I requeſt the Board will call on them, to produce any one inſtance, where I have either refuſed or delayed to give them, or any other merchant, every aſſiſtance they have aſked of me, in the carrying on their private buſineſs, and obtaining redreſs for their grievances.

In ſhort, gentlemen, their letter throughout is ſo very injurious to me as a gentleman, to ſay nothing of my ſtation, that I ſhould apply to you for juſtice againſt them, did I not perceive, that inſtead of ſhewing your diſpleaſure at ſuch behaviour,

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viour, you have thought proper to give it the ſanction of your approbation. I refer therefore to the honourable the Court of Directors, who, I am perſuaded, will do me more juſtice.

I ſhall be glad to ſee the number of the members of the Board increaſed, and wiſh it could always be kept ſo; but if I had propoſed to ſend for particular members from the ſubordinates to give their opinion on a particular ſubject, I ſhould ſurely have been accuſed of an intention to make a majority to carry a particular point; and it is a precedent, which may at ſome time be applied to that purpoſe, and therefore I think a bad one.

As to the Major, he is to be a member of the Board, according to our honourable maſter's directions, *when military affairs only are under debate.* How the regulation of a method for carrying on our trade in ſalt, Betel-nut, and tobacco, can be brought under that title, I cannot conceive, nor how he can be ſuppoſed to be a judge of ſuch a ſubject. Yet, if you conceive his advice can be of uſe, I am far from objecting to his being preſent. The matter in queſtion, is not with me a point of conteſt or party; I wiſh only to ſee ſuch rules laid down, that the Nabob and we may know our proper limits, and prevent our ſervants from tranſgreſſing them, which will require time and patience, and much care and attention. The beſt laws will ſometimes be tranſgreſſed; but the inconveniencies which ariſe from ſuch tranſgreſſions, ought not to be objected againſt the laws themſelves, but againſt the tranſgreſſors, who can only be reſtrained by the conſtant care of government.

FINIS.

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